Readers — GET YOUR POOLS IN — See latest Page 5

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

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NSL KICK-OFF — P2/7

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH LES MURRAY — P13
By John Economos

INDOOR — P10/11
— with Joe Di Meglio —

THE HEAT IS ON !

BY LOU GAUTIER

HISTORY will be made on Friday when the 1989/90 National Soccer League season kicks off in Melbourne and in Sydney.

To Melbourne Croatia and Preston Makedonia go the honour of opening Australian soccer's inaugural summer season at 6pm at the Croatian Sports Centre at Somers Street.

An hour later, it will be NSW's turn to taste summer football under the stars when St George are home to Blacktown City at St George Stadium.

But the acid test of whether fans come flocking to the new-look competition will be on Saturday when four matches will be played — Wollongong City v Adelaide City at Brandon Park, Melita Eagles v Sunshine George Cross at the Melita Stadium and the big double-header at Marconi Stadium with Apia-Adelaide Hellas and Marconi-Sydney Olympic sharing the bill.

The bold switch of seasons has not been without its controversies, but it's too late for recriminations now.

The die is cast as Australian club soccer embarks on unchartered waters.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Will Marconi again be celebrating an NSL triumph come May?

Quit sponsors NSL for $420,000

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

AT a press conference held simultaneously at Sydney's Southern Cross Hotel and at Melbourne's Hyatt on Collins Hotel, the NSL officially launched its new summer soccer season with a cash sponsorship of $420,000 coming from Quit, funded by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation. → cont. p18

Summer SOCCER THE HEAT IS ON

Quit NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE

BIGGEST SELLING SOCCER NEWSPAPER RIGHT ACROSS AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIA'S BEST NATIONAL LEAGUE COVER — and going further ahead!

A transition season for Sydney Croatia

BY LOU GAUTIER

SYDNEY Croatia fans are looking forward to the 1989/90 season with more than the usual dose of trepidation.

And so is, no doubt, Ron Corry, the new man at the helm after Vedran Rozic' departure.

The former Socceroo goalkeeper, who has been associated with the club for almost 20 years, has different coaching concepts and is likely to take an opposing route to his illustrious predecessor.

Croatia will start the summer season without several key players.

Robbie Slater is in Belgium with Anderlecht although Croatia claim they have yet to see the transfer fee, Graham Jennings and Shane Clinch are gone and goalie Tony Franken won't be fit to resume until well after Christmas.

Youthful Newcastle keeper John Russell has joined the club as have St George defender Mike Grbevski and Victorian Player of the Year, Velimir Kupresak.

The St Albans star, however, by some quirk of Victorian Soccer Federation rules, can't officially be transferred until December 1!

Croatia's biggest catch, of course, is Pedro Ricoy, who if he recaptures his true form, will be a huge asset and will fire a midfield which was the club's achilles heel last season.

Corry, a believer in Australian youth, may be fielding one of the youngest sides in the league.

It remains to be seen if the new-look Sydney Croatia can gel so soon.

This may well be a season of transition for a club which potentially can draw on one of the biggest, if not largest, crowd support in the country.

One player who has vowed to fire on all cylinders in 1989/9O is Graham Arnold, who decided the remain with the club.

The Croatia skipper will carry a big load on his shoulders, but his task will be made easier if and when Manis Lamond, who still had not been heard of as this issue went to press, rejoins the fold.

Croatia are also looking forward to improvements at their already impressive headquarters in the months ahead.

They believe the Croatian Sports Centre will soon be one of the showpieces ofthe National League, and what's more the new management has every intention offielding a team worthy of its stadium.

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Low key Wolves

BY KEITH GILMOUR

RAY VLIETSTRA

DESPITE a low key start with reluctance of senior players to re-sign, Wollongong City is now beginning to show up as a team which will have character and drive without aspiring to brilliance.

Just as importantly the Wolves have secured the BHP Steel sponsorship once again — with a handy increase in the figure — and have obtained a second major sponsor, which will make up for the loss of Kern.

The club did extremely well to secure former ace Socceroo defender David Ratcliffe as player-coach.

He is expected to do an admirable job, in spite of having a very low budget for securing new players.

No less than 16 applications were received from the job — from all over Australia.

Zivko Hristovski, the defensive midfielder has joined the club after missing last season due to a dispute with Wollongong Makedonia.

Ratcliffe is impressed with the possibilities of many of his local gains.

Midfielder Richard Lloyd, in Wollongong to attend university, has switched to the club from Fairy Meadow.

The front line is being reinforced, the problem being that Pat Brodnik's religious beliefs as an Adventist will not allow him to play on Friday and Saturday nights.

The club unfortunately lost steady left-back Mike Hollifield, who returned to England, as well as South American Walter Calbanese as well as their brave goalkeeper, Warwick Young.

Players such as David Skeen, Jock Morlando, Randell Easthorpe, Peter Kotaminidis, Ray Vlietstra, Jeff Allport and Goran Trajcevski should give a good account of themselves.

In a late, welcome development, experienced midfielder Danny Crainie ended speculation about his future when he resigned last weekend.

The club is also negotiating with NSW State League goalkeeper Drajan Pupovac because Warwick Young has quit the club.

Huge task for Schaefer's Apia

MANFRED Schaefer faces a gigantic task in restoring Apia to the top ranks after losing seven players in the off-season.

John Kosmina and Steve O'Connor have announced their retirement, Mirko Radosavljevic is transfer-listed, Craig Mason has joined Melita, Jim Webber has returned to Sutherland, Kevin Hagan has signed with Sydney Olympic and Pedro Ricoy is likely to go to Sydney Croatia.

Schaefer has gained Jason van Blerk from Blacktown, Klaus Okon from Marconi and Graham Jennings and Shane Clinch from Sydney Croatia subject to the Ricoy transfer being approved.

Apia, which finished five points above the bottom in the winter season, will play its opening round at home against newly-promoted Adelaide Hellas.

"I don't know much about them and at this stage I'm not worried," said Schaefer.

"I'm more concerned with getting the squad together.

"Last year the club had six players over the age of 30 as well as some promising juniors. But we're still doing pre-season training and the juniors won't walk into the team until they have proved they are worth it."

Apia have a favourable draw for the start of the season, remaining at home in the second round to Wollongong and then away to the second newly-promoted team, Melita Eagles.

— TED SIMMONS

Demons rarin' to go

BY KEITH GILMOUR

BLACKTOWN CITY was not behind the door when Marconi finally came back to their little goalmaker David Lowe with an offer he could not refuse.

That meant he would not be off to the Gabbie Stadium.

Within days of the decision coach Les Scheinflug was dispatched to the Land of the Long White Cloud with instructions to check over New Zealand's leading scorers.

The men under review were Noel Barkley (Mt Wellington) and Gary Parker (Napier City).

Scheinflug said: "Players who know the New Zeland scene well such as Robert Ironside confirmed that the top three New Zealand clubs could hold their own in the NSL.

"I already knew from my own observations that Barkley is quick.

"And Parker has scored 19 goals to date. He's the one I hope to secure by the start of the season.

"What we need is someone to pop them in along with Zlatko Arambasic, Paul Welch and Lawrie McKinna."

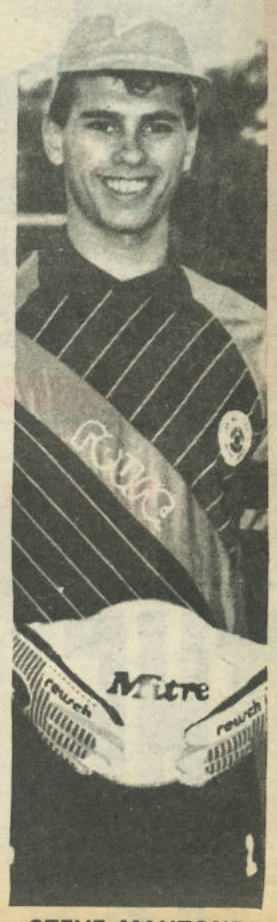
The Demons, if they get their act together quick enough, can aspire to a mid-table spot.

Bill Londos has been in goal during the trials, with Steve Mautone as backup.

The backline looks much better, with the signing of Paul Carter from Maconi and Dominic Longo's return after injury.

Kurt Reynolds should have a big year.

Sean Murphy, the Australian Youth skipper after Dominic Longo missed playing in Syria, was signed from Perth as an allrounder, and Geoff Gunning has been added as well.



STEVE MAUTONE

In midfield are ex-Socceroo Zarko Odzakov, John Gibson, Ralph Maier and Steve Jee as well.

A lot will depend on the quality of the final two signings to complete the squad.

Gabbie Stadium, the club's own property, is being completely revamped.

The location of the pitch has been changed, and installation of the floodlighting system has commenced.

If all goes to plan the new stand will be ready for opening in February.

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1989/90 SUMMER NSL CLUB PREVIEW

Olympic bank on youngsters

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC, despite losing four players from last season's squad, are adamant they will rely on some of the highly promising youth team players so well honed by Geoff Harcombe last season.

Last season's unsuccessful grand finalists and NSL Cup runners-up have lost striker Alistair Edwards to England (Brighton), midfielder Jason Polak and tough centre-back George Haniotis to Greece (to (Panathinaikos and Ethnikos respectively) and also possibly former captain, Peter Raskopoulos, to Apia on a loan basis.

Other than some peripheral talks about snaring Canberra Croatia striker Marko Perinovic, and the possible acquisition of former Apia striker Kevin Hagan, Olympic will endeavour to plug gaps in their NSL squad with the injection of some star young players from last season's exciting youth team.

The starlets include Eric Hrist, Craig Sharpley, Alex Aroujo, Louie Triantafylou and Steve Refenes.

Last week, John Koch's younger brother, Clayton, a promising 19-year-old striker, was flown down from Queensland to trial with Olympic.

Olympic president George Pashalis told ASW: "We must get a ground of our very own and this task is at the moment before the NSW Government who have promised to help out.

"Premier Nick Greiner's people have a site in the Canterbury district area in mind and the most likely one under consideration is Campbell Oval."

Meanwhile, Olympic will use the St George Stadium as their home base.

Olympic's major sponsors will once again weigh in, with financial support coming from Majestic Limousines and Crisco Oil, whilst their squads will be outfitted by Tango Sports again.

This Friday evening, Sydney Olympic have planned a fund-raising night at a reception place in Bexley, with tickets costing $100 per head for a three-course dinner and all drinks inclusive.

The senior coaching staff of Eddie Thomson, Mick Hickman and Geoff Harcombe have all been retained for the new season.

It is to be hoped that Eddie Thomson's lads do as well as last season in 1989/90 as a healthy Sydney Olympic is vital to the NSL's well being.

ROBBIE IRONSIDE: back from his off-season stint in the New Zealand National League and rarin' to go for Sydney Olympic.

ANDREW ZINNI: will be on hand again to add inspiration to Preston's attack.

Preston will rely on Spink

PRESTON Makedonia is a club at the crossroads.

With an injection of around $100,000 worth of new talent last summer it went about doing as well as it could have to reach the finals.

Now Preston is looking to go just those couple of vital steps further and build on the foundations laid in 1989.

Like the other Melbourne clubs Preston has the potential to be a contender, particularly having lost little manpower from its ranks during the off-season.

But two major changes between seasons could tilt the balance away from the Connor Reserve club.

The loss of big John 'Jonesy' Markovski to Melbourne Croatia is a bitter pill to swallow.

And, once again, Preston has decided on yet another change of coaches, bringing in Ljube Jancev, who moves up from the assistant's job, to take over from Andon Doncevski.

It is the club's fifth senior team coach in less than three years and, despite arguments to the contrary, it is bound to take some time for the new boss to settle in.

Preston's defence, led by goalie Phil Traianedes, ever-consistent Steve Jackson and George Jolevski, is its most impressive feature.

With the loss of Markovski, Preston's midfield looks decidedly light on truly creative players.

Much depends on Warren Spink returning to his truly devastating 1988 form and whether the club can get another season from injury-troubled Smith.

Together these two have the potential to become the best striking duo in the country.

Without service they will struggle although Andrew Zinni, Preston's one truly shining light in 1989, will be on hand to add his touch of class.

— GREG BLAKE

Another struggle for George Cross

BY GREG BLAKE

I'D like to see Sunshine George Cross survive and go on to prosper as a National League club.

I'd also like to win Tattslotto.

The chances of either happening are remote.

Georgie doesn't have the finances, support or facilities to compete with the big boys.

It probably never will have and it is a something of a miracle that the club has stayed alive in the elite competition coming up for its seventh year.

John Gardiner and his team of battlers did the job with courage and tenacity. Now Gardiner has gone and Ernie Merrick and much the same team of battlers with have to do the same thing in the face of the same adversity as will always dog the club.

It's uphill all the way.

As in previous years Merrick, like Gardiner, will start the season running at a decided loss.

In come Paul and Craig Foster and David Clarkson — three good players, but hardly the ones to turn a perenial loser around.

The losses have been substantial with 1989 Player of the Year, goalkeeper Sean Keogh, walking out (possibly to Melbourne Croatia) and agile, young defender Andrew Marth also lost to Somers Street.

Streetwise veterans McLaren, Lennon and Taylor are transfer-listed, leaving Merrick to struggle along with a threadbare squad of average ability.

The George Cross powers want the youth

Andrew Marth

at the club encouraged, which is fair enough considering that the club's youth team has won the past four Southern Division youth titles in succession.

But to throw the kids in with the hope of staying competitive in the NSL is sheer suicide.

It is not likely to work.

Can Saints do it again?

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THE big question for Frank Arok's St George is whether they can pull off another spectacular season after 1989's heroics when no-one fancied their chances.

Saints have lost three of their key players for the inaugural summer season.

Gone are Ratcliffe (player-coach at Wollongong City), midfielder Alan Pottier (back in Perth) and left back Mike Grbevski, who has joined Sydney Croatia.

The Saints have signed up Manuel Spanoudakis from Canterbury Marrickville, centre-back Blago Milicevic from Sydney Croatia's under 19 side, plus a newly arrived striker from Yugoslavia.

The 23-year-old Yugoslav, Vlado Jrmcic, hails from the Jagodina club and Frank Arok feels he will be an asset alongside strikers Scott Ollerenshaw, Tony Krslovic and Mathew Bingley.

St George's general manager Tony Balaszi told ASW:"One of our top priorities this season is to make the playing surface of the St George Stadium the best in Australia.

"We are spending over $120,000 returfing the surface, acquiring new lawn-cutting machinery as used on bowling greens, improving the outside training pitches as well as upgrading parking space to take in 1,000 cars.

"We are also erecting a new scoreboard and have brought in many tonnes of new soil for top-dressing the surfaces of our pitches.

"As well we have instigated a well-designed St George apprenticeship scheme open to the top young talent from anywhere in Australia.

"By the end of the week after all these youngsters have undergone rigid tests, we will know exactly how many of them would have qualified for a St George apprenticeship."

Mr Balaszi went on to say: "We are not interested in the quantity of apprentices only quality."

ADELAIDE CLUBS PREVIEWED ON PAGE 17

Croatia carries Melbourne hopes

BY GREG BLAKE

ALAN DAVIDSON

THE hopes and dreams of Melbourne's NSL fans are well and truly with Melbourne Croatia on the eve of the 1989/90 season.

On and off the field Croatia is set to become Melbourne's power team of the new decade.

Croatia captured the hearts and minds of the NSL-going public last year.

To coincide with the opening of its new Somers Street ground last year (which now boasts floodlighting which is the envy of Melbourne's other NSL teams) the club produced its best side since the heady State League days of the late 1970s.

As the club got its act together so did the team and along the way it introduced us to Melbourne Coach of the Year Ivan Raznjevic, playing discovery of the year Zeljko Adzic and personality of the year Francis Awaritefe.

Players like Alan Davidson (who is surely now playing the best football of his career), Branko Milosevic, Theo Selemidis, Josip Biskic, David Hannah and Joe Caleta rose to the occasion and produced a truly memorable season.

For a time it seemed the '89 team might break up.

There was talk of Awaritefe, Raznjevic and one or two others moving on but club executives managed to retain the entire squad with the more than handy additions of John Markovski, David Marth and at least one new keeper to replace the inexperienced mate Grgic.

The new goalie is likely to be seen Sean Keogh.

Croatia has gone from strength to strength. The momentum of '89 hasn't been lost and now that the sleeping giant has been awakened there might be a few clubs losing quite a bit of sleep.

Melbourne Croatia has a mainly youthful, superbly skilled, slightly arrogant and just plain talented team which could go all the way this season.

Eagles confident they can survive

BY MARIO ETCHART

Last season's NSW State League winners, Melita Eagles, are back in the big time to stay, according to the man who brought them into the National League, coach Raul Blanco.

And, what's more, the astute Argentine-born supremo is promising spectators value for money when they watch the Eagles play this season.

The Maltese-supported club comes into the big league with a core of talented South American players whose style is sure to please and entertain.

One has to go back to the days of Sydney Croatia in the mid-sixties to find a Sydney team which is so Latin American-oriented.

Melita Eagles start the season with the same squad that won the club promotion some six weeks ago.

Their off-season acquisitions have been ex-Marconi and Apia midfielder Craig Mason, Rockdale Ilinden defender Scott O'Donnell, Argentine striker Sergio Falce and they are also negotiating with Canterbury Marrickville forward Tony Parison.

Blanco believes the experience of players like Washington Gonzales, Alex McPherson, Alfredo Barrios and, of course, new boy Mason will be a very important factor.

They are the players who are expected to show the way to their younger team-mates as the club finds its feet in a much tougher competition.

"We face a great challenge but I am optimistic," Blanco said.

"We have a good blend of experience and talented youth and we will carry on with the South American style of football which was so successful last season.

"Despite the tougher opposition, I am convinced our style will again be effective.

"I know what Falce is capable of as he played for Dock Sud, the team I coached during my stint in Argentina," added Blanco.

However, the star of Melita Eagles in this inaugural summer season may well be Washington Gonzales, the best and most experienced South American to ever play in Australia.

Look out also for the skills of Aytek Genc, Hugo Gimenez and the Cerro brothers.

Melita Eagles, who are endowed with their own modern stadium in South Granville, in Sydney's western suburbs, should be a welcome addition to the NSL.

MARCONI p7

South Melbourne to give it a big shake

BY GREG BLAKE

PAUL WADE: fit and rarin' to go again.

INJURIES, pressure and a subsequent lack of confidence killed off the South Melbourne Hellas challenge in 1989.

If the club can avoid serious injuries and start the season on a high note, there is no reason why South Melbourne shouldn't be a finals contender.

There is no doubt that the sheer ability in the ranks at Middle Park entitles the club to look to the new season with a great deal of anticipation.

But the crushing weight of that fanatical obsession with success which surrounds the club certainly took its toll in 1989 when once again, we anticipated a Hellas blitz.

It seemed as hard as the players tried to please the adoring hordes at Middle Park the worse things got last year.

Erratic form cost Brian Garvey his job and now it is the turn of the legendary Ferenc Puskas to put his reputation on the line as he tries to harness the volatile genius of the current Hellas team.

If there is glory to be won by South Melbourne, it should come this year as the youngsters of 1988 approach full bloom.

Thanks mainly to Steve Blair, surely the best long-serving defender in the league, Hellas will always have an adequate defence.

And up the field, where games are won and lost, Hellas is brimming with match-winning talent.

The keys are the elegant Mike Petersen, workhorse Paul Wade, speedster Steve Tasios in midfield and barnstorming Kim Taliadoros and boy-wonder Paul Trimboli.

GIBSON OUT

St George have lost star goalkeeper Mike Gibson for Friday's season opener against Blacktown City.

The injured keeper is also expected to miss the matches against Sydney Croatia and Marconi.

John Filan will deputise for Gibson.

Also missing, of course, will be Andy Koczka, but the St George captain has reconsidered his decision to give the game up for a season and is expected to be back on deck by early December.

In his absence, Scott Ollerenshaw will captain St George.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE ACTION ON SUNDAY

Games televised subject to changes caused by weather

The Big Match

CHARITY SHIELD MATCH:
ADELAIDE CITY v MARCONI

SOUTH MELBOURNE v PRESTON MAK
MARCONI v SYDNEY OLYMPIC

ABC-TV

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PRESENTED BY JOHN BELL

SOCCER POOLS

THE POOLS

LAST WEEKS RESULTS
WEEK 222 SAT 28 OCTOBER, 1989

POOLS RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

Total Prize Pool $198,065.88

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order): 8, 10, 14, 15, 18, 38. Supplementary Number: 36

Division 1
The Prize Pool is $128,709.98
No winner - Jackpot week 223 (Est. $250,000 next week).

Division 2
The Prize Pool is $3,961.30
1 provisional winner of $3,961.30

Division 3
The Prize Pool is $11,884.40
44 winners of $270.10 ea.

Division 4
The Prize Pool is $29,706.40
2,092 winners of $14.20 ea.

Division 5
The Prize Pool is $23,803.80
2,454 winners of $9.70 ea.

MATCH RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	DERBY	1	1-1	
	ASTON VILLA	CRYSTAL P.	2	2-1	
	CHARLTON	COVENTRY	3	1-1	
	CHELSEA	MAN. CITY	4	1-1	
	MAN. UTD.	SOUTHAMPTON	5	2-1	
	MILLWALL	LUTON	6	1-1	
	NORWICH	EVERTON	7	1-1	
	NOTT'M FOR.	Q.P.R.	8	2-2	★
	SHEFF. WED.	WIMBLEDON	9	0-1	
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BARNSLEY	LEICESTER	10	2-2	★
	BRADFORD C.	LEEDS	11	0-1	
	HULL	BRIGHTON	12	0-2	
	MIDDLESBRO	WEST BROM.	13	0-0	
	NEWCASTLE	PORT VALE	14	2-2	★
	PLYMOUTH	BLACKBURN	15	2-2	★
	PORTSMOUTH	IPSWICH	16	2-3	
	STOKE	SUNDERLAND	17	0-2	
	SWINDON	BOURNEM'TH	18	VOID	★
	WATFORD	SHEFF. UTD.	19	1-3	
	WEST HAM	OXFORD UTD.	20	3-2	
	WOLVES	OLDHAM	21	1-1	
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BRENTFORD	FULHAM	22	2-0	
	BRISTOL C.	WIGAN A.	23	3-0	
	BURY	BIRMINGHAM	24	0-0	
	CARDIFF	LEYTON O.	25	1-1	
	CHESTER	BRISTOL R.	26	0-0	
	HUDD'FIELD	SHREWSBURY	27	1-1	
	NORTH'PTON	NOTTS C.	28	0-0	
	PRESTON	BOLTON	29	1-4	
	READING	MANSFIELD	30	1-0	
	ROTHERHAM	BLACKPOOL	31	1-1	
	WALSALL	SWANSEA	32	0-1	
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BURNLEY	ALDERSHOT	33	0-0	
	CAMBRIDGE U.	SCUNTHORPE	34	5-3	
	CARLISLE	HARTLEPOOL	35	1-0	
	CHESTERFIELD	SOUTHEND	36	1-1	★
	COLCHESTER	PETERBORO	37	0-1	
	GRIMSBY	HALIFAX	38	1-1	★

★ Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST
WEEK 223 SAT 4 NOVEMBER 1989

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHARLTON	MAN. UTD.	1	
	LIVERPOOL	COVENTRY	2	
	LUTON	DERBY	3	
	MAN. CITY	CRYSTAL P.	4	
	NOTT'M FOR.	SHEFF. WED.	5	
	SOUTHAMPTON	TOTTENHAM	6	
	WIMBLEDON	Q.P.R.	7	
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BARNSLEY	PORTSMOUTH	8	
	BRIGHTON	BLACKBURN	9	
	HULL	WATFORD	10	
	IPSWICH	WEST BROM.	11	
	LEEDS	BOURNEM'TH	12	
	NEWCASTLE	MIDDLESBRO	13	
	OLDHAM	SUNDERLAND	14	
	PLYMOUTH	BRADFORD C.	15	
	PORT VALE	OXFORD UTD.	16	
	SHEFF. UTD.	LEICESTER	17	
	SWINDON	STOKE	18	
	WOLVES	WEST HAM	19	
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	BOLTON	SWANSEA	20	
	BRENTFORD	TRANMERE	21	
	BRISTOL R.	BLACKPOOL	22	
	CHESTER	HUDDERSFIELD	23	
	MANSFIELD	NOTTS C.	24	
	NORTHAMPTON	ROTHERHAM	25	
	PRESTON	SHREWSBURY	26	
	READING	BIRMINGHAM	27	
	WALSALL	BRISTOL C.	28	
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BURNLEY	COLCHESTER	29	
	CAMBRIDGE U.	ALDERSHOT	30	
	CARLISLE	MAIDSTONE	31	
	DONCASTER	SCUNTHORPE	32	
	EXETER	LINCOLN	33	
	GILLINGHAM	SCARBORO	34	
	GRIMSBY	CHESTERFIELD	35	
	HARTLEPOOL	WREXHAM	36	
	HEREFORD	ROCHDALE	37	
	SOUTHEND	PETERBORO	38	
RESERVE MATCHES				
*	YORK	TORQUAY	39	
†	HENDON	KINGSTONIAN	40	
	REDBRIDGE	GRAYS	41	
	STAINES	HAYES	42	
	WOKINGHAM	DULWICH	43	
SCOTTISH PREMIER	DUNDEE	ABERDEEN	44	
	DUNFERMLINE	DUNDEE U.	45	
	HIBERNIAN	HEARTS	46	
	RANGERS	CELTIC	47	
	ST. MIRREN	MOTHERWELL	48	
SCOTTISH DIVISION 1	ALBION R.	ALLOA	49	
	CLYDE	CLYDEBANK	50	
	FALKIRK	AIRDRIE	51	
	FORFAR	MEADOWBANK	52	
	HAMILTON	S. JOHNSTONE	53	
	MORTON	AYR	54	
	RAITH	PARTICK	55	

★ ENGLISH DIVISION 4
†VAUXHALL PREMIER FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Get your Pools in!

It takes only six numbers to win.

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 28/10/1989 — WEEK 222

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED							
1 23	2 26	3 34	4 13	5 27	6 41	7 32	8 39		1 8	2 15	3 3	4 31	5 20	6 8	7 5	8 —
9 42	10 50	11 44	12 43	13 41	14 43	15 45	16 39		9 10	10 —	11 6	12 4	13 7	14 —	15 —	16 5
17 39	18 40	19 33	20 48	21 42	22 45	23 46	24 43		17 1	18 —	19 14	20 2	21 1	22 3	23 8	24 9
25 44	26 50	27 47	28 58	29 48	30 64	31 44	32 49		25 3	26 1	27 1	28 2	29 7	30 4	31 11	32 5
33 48	34 57	35 51	36 59	37 47	38 47				33 8	34 1	35 2	36 —	37 3	38 —		

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

ENGLISH DIV 1: Arsenal 1 Derby 1, Aston Villa 2 Crystal Palace 1, Charlton 1 Coventry 1, Chelsea 1 Manchester City 1, Manchester United 2 Southampton 1, Millwall 1 Luton 1, Norwich 1 Everton 1, Nottingham Forest 2 Queen's Park Rangers 2, Sheffield Wednesday 0 Wimbledon 1.

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Everton	11	6	2	3	18	13	20
Chelsea	11	5	4	2	15	10	19
Liverpool	9	5	3	1	22	8	18
Arsenal	11	5	3	3	17	11	18
Sthampton	1	5	3	3	22	18	18
Norwich	11	4	6	1	16	12	18
Aston Vill	11	5	3	3	13	10	18
Tottenham	10	5	2	3	18	16	17
Notts Fst	11	4	4	3	16	12	16
Millwall	11	4	3	4	19	19	15
Man Utd	10	4	2	4	19	17	14
Coventry	11	4	2	5	9	15	14
Cryst Pal	11	4	2	5	13	23	14
Luton	11	3	4	4	11	10	13
Derby	11	3	3	5	9	11	12
Man City	11	3	2	6	14	18	11
Wimbledon	11	2	5	4	10	14	11
QPR	11	2	4	5	11	14	10
Charlton	11	2	4	5	9	12	10
Sheff Wed	11	1	3	7	2	20	6

DIV 2: Barnsley 2 Leicester 2, Bradford 0 Leeds 1, Hull 0 Brighton 2, Middlesbrough 0 West Bromwich 0, Newcastle 2 Port Vale 2, Plymouth 2 Blackburn 2, Portsmouth 2 Ipswich 3, Stoke 0 Sunderland 2, Watford 1 Sheffield United 3, West Ham 3 Oxford 2, Wolverhampton 1 Oldham 1.

DIVISION TWO

Sheff Utd	14	9	4	1	27	15	31
Leeds	14	8	5	1	22	13	29
Newcastle	14	8	3	3	26	16	27
West Ham	14	7	4	3	24	16	25
Sunderland	14	7	4	3	22	19	25
Plymouth	14	7	2	5	23	18	23
Brighton	14	7	1	6	22	19	22
Oldham	14	6	4	4	18	15	22
Blackburn	13	4	8	1	23	15	20
Wolves	14	5	4	5	23	20	19
Swindon	13	5	4	4	20	17	19
Ipswich	14	5	4	5	22	22	19
Bournemth	13	5	3	5	22	22	18
WBA	14	4	5	5	20	21	17
Port Vale	14	3	7	4	15	16	16
Watford	14	4	4	6	14	20	16
Barnsley	14	4	4	6	17	26	16
Bradford	14	3	5	6	12	15	14
Middlesbro	13	3	4	6	16	21	13
Oxford	14	3	4	7	19	26	13
Stoke	14	1	8	5	13	20	11
Portsmouth	14	2	5	7	14	24	11
Leicester	14	2	4	8	14	24	10
Hull	14	0	8	6	14	22	8

DIV 3: Brentford 2 Fulham 0, Bristol City 3 Wigan 0, Bury 0 Birmingham 0, Cardiff 1 Leyton Orient 1, Chester 0 Bristol Rovers 0, Huddersfield 1 Shrewsbury 1, Northampton 0 Notts County 0, Preston 1 Bolton 4, Reading 1 Mansfield 0, Rotherham 1 Blackpool 1, Walsall 0 Swansea 1.

DIVISION THREE

Brist Rov	13	7	5	1	16	6	26
Bolton	13	7	4	2	20	12	25
Bury	13	6	6	1	22	14	24
Tranmere	13	7	2	4	26	10	23
Rotherham	13	6	5	2	27	13	23
Brist City	13	7	2	4	17	14	23
Huddersfld	13	6	5	2	17	14	23
Shrewsbury	13	6	4	3	19	12	22
Notts City	13	5	5	3	15	13	20
Reading	13	4	7	2	17	13	19
Birmingham	13	6	1	6	17	17	19
Fulham	13	4	5	4	14	14	17
Mansfield	13	5	2	6	11	13	17
Swansea	13	5	2	6	14	23	17
Ley Orient	13	5	1	7	19	22	16
Nrthamptn	13	4	3	6	16	20	15
Blackpool	13	4	3	6	13	17	15
Walsall	13	4	3	6	12	18	15
Preston	13	4	2	7	22	26	14
Crewe	13	2	6	5	16	20	12
Brentford	13	3	2	8	14	19	11
Chester	13	2	5	6	14	23	11
Wigan	13	1	5	7	10	21	8
Cardiff	13	1	5	7	11	25	8

DIV 4: Burnley 0 Aldershot 0, Cambridge 5 Scunthorpe 3, Carlisle 1 Hartlepool 0, Chesterfield 1 Southend 1, Colchester 0 Peterborough 1, Grimsby 1 Halifax 1, Hereford 2 Lincoln 2, Maidstone 2 Wrexham 0, Rochdale 1 Scarborough 0, Stockport 2 Exeter 1, York 2 Doncaster 1.

DIVISION FOUR

Stockport	13	8	3	2	23	11	27
Southend	13	8	2	3	22	11	26
Peterboro	13	7	4	2	20	12	25
York	13	7	4	2	18	12	25
Lincoln	13	7	4	2	15	9	25
Carlisle	13	6	5	2	18	12	23
Burnley	13	6	5	2	14	9	23
Exeter	13	7	1	5	23	18	22
Scunthorpe	13	6	1	6	24	20	19
Hereford	13	5	4	4	19	18	19
Cambridge	13	5	3	5	23	21	18
Chesterfld	13	5	3	5	18	19	18
Aldershot	13	4	5	4	17	18	17
Rochdale	13	5	2	6	11	14	17
Grimsby	13	4	4	5	18	16	16
Gillingham	12	4	4	4	12	13	16
Maidstone	13	5	1	7	16	18	16
Halifax	13	4	3	6	21	19	15
Scarboro	13	4	2	7	16	21	14
Torquay	12	4	1	7	13	23	13
Wrexham	13	3	3	7	16	19	12
Doncaster	13	2	2	9	13	18	8
Colchester	13	1	5	7	12	26	8
Hartlepool	13	1	3	9	10	35	6

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIV: Aberdeen 1 Motherwell 0, Dundee United 0 Dundee 0, Dunfermline 2 Celtic 0, Hearts 4 St Mirren 0, Rangers 3 Hibernian 0.

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Celtic	11	5	4	2	17	12	14
Aberdeen.	11	6	2	3	12	8	14
Dunfermlin	11	5	3	3	19	13	13
Rangers	11	5	3	3	13	9	13
Hearts	11	5	2	4	19	14	12
Motherwell	11	4	4	3	16	13	12
Hibernian	11	4	2	5	13	16	10
Dundee Utd	11	2	5	4	14	16	9
St Mirren	11	3	1	7	9	23	7
Dundee	11	1	4	6	13	21	6

DIV 1: Airdrieonians 4 Forfar 1, Alloa 1 Clydebank 4, Clyde 2 Falkirk 0, Hamilton 3 Raith 2, Meadowbank 1 Ayr 2, Morton 0 Albion 0, St Johnstone 2 Partick 1.

DIVISION ONE

St Johnst	13	10	3	0	27	10	23
Airdrie	13	9	2	2	26	10	20
Partick	13	7	5	1	28	14	19
Hamilton	13	5	5	3	17	18	15
Raith	13	6	1	6	16	20	13
Alloa	13	4	4	5	25	23	12
Falkirk	13	4	4	5	17	16	12
Clyde	13	4	4	5	15	17	12
Clydebank	13	4	3	6	23	24	11
Ayr	13	3	5	5	16	21	11
Morton	13	2	6	5	13	18	10
Mdwbnk	13	2	5	6	13	20	9
Forfar	13	1	6	6	15	25	8
Albion	13	2	3	8	11	26	7

DIV 2: Arbroath 1 Berwick 0, Brechin 1 Stranraer 0, East Fife 4 Montrose 1, East Stirling 1 Cowdenbeath 1, Kilmarnock 3 Dumbarton 0, Queen's Park 2 Stirling 1, Stenhousemuir 1 Queen of the South 3.

DIVISION TWO

Kilmarnock	12	7	2	3	14	5	16
Brechin	12	6	3	3	19	13	15
Arbroath	12	4	7	1	20	17	15
Stranraer	12	5	4	3	18	16	14
Dumbarton	12	6	2	4	23	24	14
East Fife	12	4	5	3	20	16	13
Queen's Pk	12	5	3	4	18	19	13
Stirling	12	5	2	5	21	16	12
Stenhouse	12	6	0	6	16	18	12
Q O' Sth	12	3	5	4	22	26	11
Berwick	12	3	3	6	16	19	9
Cowdenbth	12	2	5	5	13	17	9
Montrose	12	3	3	6	12	16	9
E Stirling	12	1	4	7	12	22	6

For Past Results and Historical Data on The Pools, write to: T.M.S. P.O. Box 2937 DD GPO Melbourne 3001. Or Phone: (03) 328 3345.

HOW THE EXPERTS PREDICT THE 1989/90 NSL SEASON

TIPSTER	'89/90 TOP FIVE PREDICTIONS	MINOR PREMIER	GRAND FINAL WINNER	BOTTOM TWO TEAMS	LEADING SCORER	PLAYER OF THE YEAR	WORLD CUP WINNER
GREG BLAKE (ASW)	Marconi, Sydney Croatia, Melbourne Croatia, St George, Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Marconi	Blacktown City, Melita Eagles	Warren Spink	Zeljko Adzic	Italy
ALAN CLARK (Adelaide News)	Marconi, South Melbourne, Melbourne Croatia, Sydney Olympic, Preston Makedonia	Marconi	Marconi	Melita Eagles, Sunshine GC	Zlatko Nastevski	Paul Trimboli	Brazil
PETER DESIRA (Melbourne Sun)	Marconi, South Melbourne, Melbourne Croatia, Preston Makedonia, Sydney Croatia	Marconi	South Melbourne	Wollongong City, Blacktown	Paul Trimboli	Zeljko Adzic	Holland
JOE DI MEGLIO (ASW)	Marconi, Preston Makedonia, Adelaide City, St George, South Melbourne	Marconi	South Melbourne	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Paul Trimboli	Francis Awaritefe	Brazil
JOHN ECONOMOS (ASW)	Marconi, Sydney Olympic, Melbourne Croatia, Sydney Croatia, South Melbourne	Marconi	South Melbourne	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Paul Trimboli	Mike Gibson	Holland
MARIO ETCHART (Spanish Herald)	Marconi, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne, Adelaide City, Sydney Croatia	Marconi	Marconi	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Zlatko Nastevski	Paul Trimboli	Brazil
RAY GATT (Australian)	Sydney Croatia, Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, South Melbourne, Sydney Olympic	Sydney Croatia	Sydney Croatia	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Graham Arnold	Ian Gray	Brazil
LOU GAUTIER (ASW)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Preston Makedonia, Adelaide City, South Melbourne	Marconi	Marconi	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Paul Trimboli	Paul Trimboli	Italy
KEITH GILMOUR (ASW)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Adelaide City, Sydney Croatia, South Melbourne	Marconi	Melbourne Croatia	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Zeljko Adzic	Graham Arnold	West Germany
MIKE HILL (ABC)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, South Melbourne, Adelaide City, APIA Leichhardt	Melbourne Croatia	Marconi	Sunshine GC, Wollongong City	Rod Brown	Zeljko Adzic	West Germany
PETROS KOSMOPOULOS (Greek Herald, Melbourne)	Marconi, South Melbourne, Melbourne Croatia, Adelaide City, Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Marconi	Blacktown City, Melita Eagles	Paul Trimboli	Paul Trimboli	Italy
JOHN MANGAN (ASW)	Marconi, South Melbourne, Sydney Olympic, Sydney Croatia, St George	Marconi	Marconi	Sunshine GC, Adelaide Hellas	Paul Trimboli	Paul Trimboli	England
JOE MARTON (Eastern Suburbs Newspapers)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Sydney Croatia, Sydney Olympic, St George	Marconi	Marconi	Wollongong City, Sunshine GC	Zeljko Adzic	Paul Trimboli	West Germany
LES MURRAY (SBS)	Marconi, St George, Adelaide City, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne	Marconi	Marconi	Melita Eagles, Adelaide Hellas	Zeljko Adzic	Zeljko Adzic	Italy
PHIL MURPHY (Illawarra Mercury, W'gong)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Preston Makedonia, Adelaide City, Wollongong City	Marconi	Marconi	Wollongong City, Sunshine GC	Zlatko Nastevski	Paul Trimboli	Italy
MICHAEL MYSTAKIDIS (Greek Herald, Sydney)	Marconi, Sydney Croatia, Adelaide City, Preston Makedonia, Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Marconi	Sunshine GC, Wollongong City	Zlatko Nastevski	Paul Trimboli	Italy
ANDY PASCHALIDIS (SBS)	Marconi, Sydney Croatia, Melbourne Croatia, South Melbourne, Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Sydney Croatia	Don't know, can't afford more enemies	Graham Arnold	Charlie Yankos (if he finds a club. I'm his agent)	Holland
FRANK SCICLUNA (ASW)	Marconi, Adelaide City, Melbourne Croatia, Preston Makedonia, South Melbourne	Marconi	Adelaide City	Wollongong City, Sunshine GC	Zlatko Nastevski	Zeljko Adzic	Holland (providing Gullit plays)
TED SIMMONS (AAP, Sydney)	Marconi, St George, Adelaide City, Sydney Olympic, Melbourne Croatia	Marconi	Marconi	Melita Eagles, Sunshine GC	Fred de Jong	Paul Trimboli	Holland
ALEX VESIC (Novosti, Sydney)	Sydney Olympic, Marconi, Adelaide City, Sydney Croatia, Preston Makedonia	Sydney Olympic	Adelaide City	Sunshine GC, Melb. Croatia	Zlatko Arambasic	Milan Blagojevic	Yugoslavia
VLADO VLAHOVIC (ASW)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Preston Makedonia, South Melbourne, Sydney Olympic	Marconi	Preston Makedonia	Blacktown, APIA Leichhardt	Francis Awaritefe	Paul Trimboli	Brazil
JOHN WARREN (ASW)	Marconi, Melbourne Croatia, Adelaide City, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne.	Marconi	Melbourne Croatia	Too close to call	Zeljko Adzic	John Markovski	Holland

Acid test for summer crowds

BY LOU GAUTIER

WILL the introduction of summer football result in bigger NSL crowds?

That's the question on everyone's lips on the eve of the inaugural summer National Soccer League.

Officials are confident the switch will bring in the fans in large numbers.

They point out that crowds were usually the largest in the opening rounds of previous NSL seasons, which often kicked off late in January or in February.

Crowd figures will be watched with keen interest.

After all, the introduction of the revolutionary summer concept was largely designed to increase attendances.

We'll soon know whether the move is a success.

The figure to beat is 531,470 — that was last season's unofficial total attendance for the 26 minor premiership rounds.

And we stress the word unofficial as Melbourne attendances were very approximate, to say the least. Let's hope the NSL secreteriat does something this coming season about those "estimated" Victorian crowds.

In 1988, the NSL was watched by 496,389 spectators.

The attractive first round draw this weekend should get the summer season off to a good start, crowd-wise.

While on the subject of the first round draw, the veiled criticism in some quarters when the draw was released is hard to figure out.

Competition draws are not the result of chance — people actually sit down and work them out.

So what was so "loaded" about the draw?

The NSL office has come up with an excellent opening round draw, with the right fixtures to whet the appetite of the fans.

Here's hoping they respond and that at least 25,000 show up for the weekend's seven-game season opener.

Players Points

STARTING this season, ASW has instituted a system of points ratings for all players and for the referees who will be evaluated on a scale of 0 to 10 points in all NSL matches.

The evaluations will read:

★ 10 points — out of this world.
★ 9 points — brilliant.
★ 8 points — very good.
★ 7 points — good.
★ 6 points — above average.
★ 5 points — average.
★ 4 points — mediocre.
★ 3 points — poor.
★ 2 points — very poor.
★ 1 point — horrendous.
★ 0 point — diabolical.

Past NSL Winners

Year	Champions	Runners-Up
1977	Eastern Suburbs-Hakoah	Marconi
1978	West Adelaide	Eastern Suburbs-Hakoah
1979	Marconi	Heidelberg United
1980	Sydney City	Heidelberg United
1981	Sydney City	South Melbourne
1982	Sydney City	St George
1983	St George	Sydney City
1984	South Melbourne	Sydney Olympic
1985	Brunswick Juventus	Sydney City
1986	Adelaide City	Sydney Olympic
1987	APIA Leichhardt	Preston
1988	Marconi	Sydney Croatia
1989	Marconi	Sydney Olympic

All-time top NSL Scorers

Year	Player	Club	Goals
1977	Dixie DEANS	Adelaide City	16
1978	Kenny BODEN	Newcastle Utd	14
	Clive EATON	Western Suburbs	14
1979	Mark JANKOVICS	Marconi	18
1980	Gary COLE	Heidelberg Utd	21
1981	Gary COLE	Heidelberg Utd	16
1982	John KOSMINA	Sydney City	23
1983	Doug BROWN	South Melbourne	16
1984	Doug BROWN	South Melbourne	22
1985	Charlie EGAN	South Melbourne	21
1986	Graham ARNOLD	Sydney Croatia	15
1987	Frank FARINA	Marconi	16
1988	Frank FARINA	Marconi	16
1989	Zlatko NASTEVSKI	Marconi	20

Time for franchising is now!

BY KEITH GILMOUR

SURELY it is high time for the National Soccer League to closely examine and issue a policy statement to the public on the subject of possible future franchising of clubs.

The franchising scheme would call for each admitted club to make a payment of some magnitude into the league pool.

It would then be responsible to carry out the promotional and marketing requirements to a level set out by the League.

This will be a difficult matter and would make some amalgamation of clubs essential — or highly desirable to say the least.

Whilst some favour two clubs in each of Sydney and Melbourne and one each in other accepted cities, this seems too highly professional and unachievable at this stage.

From the 1990/91 season there should be four Sydney clubs, three or perhaps four in Melbourne, and single clubs in Brisbane, Adelaide, Wollongong, Newcastle, with consideration *being given to Perth*, Canberra and the Gold Coast.

In Sydney there is room for a city club and others from the south west and the west.

North Sydney remains a void, but the entire area could be linked to the city.

There is nothing to stop the clubs being based on present clubs, provided they meet the franchising criteria.

Melbourne would be similarly divided.

The time for the nabobs of soccer to keep their heads in the sand is gone.

Soccer leaders must at last stand up and be counted.

It is no use them dealing with a company franchising soccer gear to kids when too many clubs are so small and so limited in their appeal that they involve only tiny pockets of people in the community.

How would it be possible to have retailers stock gear for say Sunshine George Cross, Preston Makedonia, Melita Eagles etc etc and achieve acceptable sales levels?

The NSL leaders MUST set up a proper scheme of club promotion in company with the Australian Soccer Federation which should find a way to join in with merchandising of Socceroo gear.

To see what has to be done — take Newcastle for a start.

The major club for the area must cover the Hunter region.

It should not be left to one of either Newcastle Austral, Adamstown Rosebud or the NNSW Federation to handle the deal.

And so with Wollongong.

How often do newspapers like AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY have to keep pointing out that Wollongong should have one NSL club, with the Illawarra District Soccer Association, the Illawarra Junior Soccer Association, Shoalhaven Soccer Football Association, etc providing the feeders.

Look at the present mess.

Fairy Meadow is all but dead.

Wollongong Macedonia went well in the NSW State League, but it has no real hope of becoming an NSL outfit.

The powers that be should advise all local clubs to start talking with Wollongong City about an amalgamation.

There is only room for one senior club in Illawarra.

Similarly there is no reason for Brisbane and Adelaide to be divided between two clubs.

Clubs have to be so strong that the entire public gets behind them.

Canberra Croatia saved Canberra senior soccer — but only to a limited degree.

A senior strongly semi-professional Canberra entity would need Croatians and everyone else to succeed, otherwise it will stay where it is.

If some franchising schemes are to be believed, the club sponsor would have to initially lodge $250,000 with the League for the first season.

Various means of running the NSL properly must be explored.

Deregulation of the domestic air industry later next year could lead to lower flying costs, although loss of work time would be expensive and hurt some players' pockets.

Parklea's magnificent motel facilities could be utilised to lower accommodation cost in Sydney.

Governments — Federal and State — have to be canvassed to see that better grounds are created with soccer as the tenants.

NSW premier Nick Greiner has pointed to the Homebush area as a major soccer arena in Sydney.

Is this exciting initiative being followed up by the Australian, NSW and NSL authorities?

For heaven's sake, let the authorities push ahead with the schemes, or find managers of high quality who can do the job with a minimum of delay.

Marconi and Sydney Croatia are amongst the NSL trendsetters. Franchising would help other clubs attain their level.

Marconi is still the one to beat

BY LOU GAUTIER

Buoyed by their splendid tour of Czechoslovakia, Marconi more than ever look to be the team to beat in 1989/90.

After finishing on a high note by beating Bohemians Prague, third in their domestic league, 3-2, it's back to the bread and butter of Ausssie football for the two-time NSL champions.

They won't have much time to rest on their laurels, what with Sydney Olympic looming up as Round 1 opponents in what is without a doubt the match of the round.

The five-game tour of Central Europe, the first by and Australian club, was the best preparation Berti Mariani could have wished as it moulded the side even more cohesively together.

Cohesion will be Marconi's greatest asset. They will field practically the same side which swept all before it last season.

And in teenager Paul Okon, who came on his own during the tour when Ian Gray was indisposed, they may have a potential rookie of the year.

Gerry Gomez's brilliant performances in Czechoslovakia should ensure he regains his place in their starting line-up.

Bobby Catlin, who shone brightly on tour, should be as solid as ever at the rear of a defence again well marshalled by Steve Calderan and Robbie Wheatley, who missed the last game of the tour after being floored by a virus.

Marconi, the NSL's best organised club on and off the field, is again the yardstick by which their rivals will be assessed.

Marconi Stadium is said to be in picture-perfect condition for Saturday's innovative Apia v Adelaide Hellas and Marconi-Sydney Olympic double-header which should bring in a bumper crowd.

Let the inaugural summer season begin — another season which will see the NSL title holders well to the fore.

For the record these were Marconi's tour results:

W 4-2 v Veseli (McCulloch, de Jong, Colagiuri, Calderan), L 1-4 v Army Select of Znojmo (Okon), L 3-4 v Vitkovice (Gomez 2, Nastevski), D 2-2 v Omoulouc (Gomez, Lowe), W 3-2 v Bohemians Prague (de Jong, Gomez, Nastevski).

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL NOW AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS

Peter Rampley (centre) and Tony Boskovic, here with St George identity Alex Pongrass, made Australia's FIFA referees' badges their very own in the not too distant past.

How not to grade referees

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE grading of referees for the NSL season appears to leave something to be desired.

Splitting up the positions between states creates anomalies that should be addressed.

Take the position of Queensland's FIFA referee Bill Monteverde.

Over a season he gets the exact same points as Alan Townsend of NSW.

Monteverde gets an NSL grading.

Townsend apparently gets the Royal Order of the Boot.

Not only that, it seems that he doesn't even get an NSL youth league grading, on the grounds (or pretext) that those places must be allocated to young developing referees.

What a way to encourage a referee who has the quality to be on the 1989 NSL panel!

Arthur Owens is graded three places above Monteverde and Townsend.

He goes out due to NSW promotion and relegation despite his goal grade, and lucky Manny Loupis comes in.

DOUG RENNIE

He misses out altogether.

From the places Townsend and Owens occupy, they cannot hope to aspire to re-entering the NSL list until October 1990 — if then.

What encouragement!

Barry Harwood of Perth does two games in a season — and gets a whistle.

Over two games he went just .09 ahead of Townsend who did 10 games.

Would Harwood have stayed on 9.6 to Townsend's 9.51 if he had covered eight more centre appointments?

NSW has more top referees than any other state, but that is no reason to wipe out referees who deserve better treatment.

The NSL has eight NSL teams and Victoria four, yet the powers that be rule that each state must have five NSL referees each.

And that is politics and has nothing to do with refereeing.

In other days excellent NSW referees Tim Davies and Doug Rennie missed out on FIFA badges simply because NSW referees Tony Boskovic and Peter Rampley had the only two spots allocated to NSW.

MELITA EAGLES

THIS week Greg Blake spotlights the Melita Eagles club record since the NSL began in 1977

OPPONENT	HOME	AWAY	FINALS	CUP	TOTAL	RECORD WIN	RECORD DEFEAT
Blacktown	2 1 0 1 1 2	1 0 1 0 0 0	N/A	N/A	3 1 1 1 1 2	1-0 1984 (home)	0-2 1984 (home)
APIA	1 0 0 1 1 2	1 1 0 0 2 1	N/A	N/A	2 1 0 1 3 3	2-1 1984 (away)	1-2 1984 (home)
Marconi	1 0 1 0 2 2	1 0 1 0 1 1	N/A	3 1 0 2 3 5	5 1 2 2 6 8	2-0 1980 (cup)	0-3 1979 (cup)
Melb. JUST	1 1 0 0 2 1	N/A	N/A	N/A	1 1 0 0 2 1	2-1 1984 (home)	N/A
St George	1 1 0 0 1 0	1 0 1 0 1 1	N/A	N/A	2 1 1 0 2 1	1-0 1984 (home)	N/A
Syd. Croatia	2 0 0 2 1 3	1 1 0 0 1 0	N/A	N/A	3 1 0 2 2 3	1-0 1984 (away)	0-1 1984 (home)
Syd. Olympic	1 0 1 0 0 0	1 0 0 1 0 3	N/A	1 1 0 0 1 0	3 1 1 1 1 3	1-0 1984 (cup)	0-3 1984 (away)
Wollongong	1 0 0 1 0 1	1 0 1 0 1 1	N/A	N/A	2 0 1 1 1 2	N/A	0-1 1984 (home)

Better watch out: McKendry is back!

BY GREG BLAKE

LEN McKendry's love-hate relationship with Victorian soccer is back on again to the delight of some and chagrin of as many more.

McKendry loves soccer and it is burning desire to succeed which usually leaves those left in his wake spiteful at his burning intensity.

McKendry deals with his detractors with a matter-of-fact shrug of the shoulders but this time around the anti-McKendry faction are rubbing their collective hands with glee.

This time around McKendry, the coach with the best win-loss ratio of any in the state during the 1980s, has taken on possibly his toughest task.

In the first year of the new decade McKendry has been charged with the task of rebuilding the crumbling Heidelberg empire, the same empire he helped build to become one of the NSL power teams just 10 years ago.

Len McKendry

There are those waiting for him to fall on his face — and he knows it.

But McKendry, who has never wavered in his belief of his own abilities, isn't about to let them bother him.

"I could have gotten out of the game and stayed out but there are too many good people in the game who've kept encouraging me to return," he says.

"It's a good challenge (to get Heidelberg back into the NSL) and in the end what swayed me was the support I've received from players who've kept in touch and encouraged me to return."

McKendry, who already has Heidelberg back into full training with the season still many months away, says he enjoyed his near 12-month break from the game.

His only disappointment at returning is, as he says, "the game is still going backwards here."

"Nothing much has changed — from what I've seen, it's only got worse.

"But I really didn't know I'd missed the game so much until I started to get back into it."

Not that he hasn't had the chance.

Since he left Juventus in 1988 McKendry has turned down numerous coaching positions, including those at Apia, Wollongong and Heidelberg when that club was struggling, mid-season.

He admits to coming close to heading to NSW.

"It's a different story up there really," he told ASW.

"There is stability in Sydney.

"Look at Frank Arok, Eddie Thomson and Paul Mariani, who have all stayed at the one club.

"And Ron Corry who has come through the ranks at Sydney Croatia.

"It would have been interesting to go there but in the end I just felt there was no reason to uproot myself."

Instead, McKendry has contented himself with "living the life of an Australian" for the first time.

He's travelled to visit friends up and down the country, extended his interests in politics and literature, sat and watched test matches until dawn from England (a Pom who admits to enjoying watching the Aussies win) and generally just enjoyed life at a leisurely pace.

"I've never had the chance to do these sort of things with soccer dominating my life," he explained.

"It was nice to be able to go fishing at the weekend and not care who won or lost."

But for now a life of leisure is a thing of the past for workaholic McKendry.

McKendry, who says his income is from "business interests", has made himself available full-time to the Bergers in a bid to get the club back into the big time.

And after two simply dreadful NSL seasons (last in 1987 and 1989) that will be one enormous task.

"People who are saying I have a ready-made team here don't know what they are talking about."

"It is a team that has been thrown together with players who have all come to the club in a short period of time.

"That's not a team. There are some talented individuals but it is a long way from being a team."

McKendry is hopeful of keeping Socceroo goalkeeper Jeff Olver for the 1990 campaign add at this stage other mainstays of the NSL side prepared to battle on in the State League next year are Garry McDowall, John Kanasoulis, Phil Stubbins, Stuart Stevenson, Angie Goutzioulis (a player rated highly by McKendry), Steve Douglas, Peter Bordinon and Nick Ousalkis.

Paul McDowall has returned to Scotland, Ronnie Campbell is likely to return to Perth and Alan Scott seems certain to be picked off by another NSL club.

NICK OUSALKIS

Definite history of South Melbourne Hellas on the way

BY GREG BLAKE

YOUNG Melbourne journalist Petros Kosmopoulos' lifelong passion for South Melbourne Hellas could see that club rewarded with the most definitive written soccer club history ever produced in Australia.

In the next month or so, Kosmopoulos will complete his massive 280-plus page history of the club, spanning some 36 years and covering every significant event in Hellas history since it played under the Hellenic banner back in 1953.

Kosmopoulos has recorded the results and goalscorers of every single league and cup game played by the club since it became Hellas in 1959.

Every committee member, player and goalscorers for every season are recorded as well as league ladders for each season, dozens of historic photographs and attendance records.

Kosmopoulos has also devoted a written chapter to the events of each season the club has played.

In short, it is the most comprehensive soccer club history ever compiled in this country.

Kosmopoulos, who will have spent over 700 hours researching and writing his labour of love in the last two years, says he will be relieved when he finishes the document.

"But at the same time I'll be a little disappointed," he told ASW.

"Learning about and writing about the club's rich history has been a part of my life for some time now and I've really enjoyed the experience.

"When I'm finished, I just hope someone can put it to good use."

Kosmopoulos, who is studying for a Bachelor of Arts (Multicultural Studies) at Philip Institute, began the task of compiling the Hellas history to submit as a thesus as part of his studies.

But interest in the document has become so great that he is hopeful that it can be put into print to be both sold to Hellas fans and kept and maintained by the South Melbourne club.

"I was very disappointed to discover the lack of historical data kept by both the club and the Victorian Soccer Federation," says Kosmopoulos, who approached both bodies for assistance before commencing his mammoth task.

"They could help me with little else than a few photos.

"This is our history and I'm very disappointed that people at administrative level in the past haven't been interested enough to preserve it for us.

"I hope the records I have compiled will be kept and up-dated for future generations."

Kosmopulos says he was inspired to take up the task after reading a booklet produced to commemorate St George's 15th anniversary season.

PETROS KOSMOPOULOS

"It gave me the idea and when I thought of the great deeds of Hellas players like Karagiannis, Margaritis, Nestoridis, Armstrong and Ollerton I felt it was important to set it all down on paper."

"Initially I went to the club and they said they would support me but I was disheartened to find they had very little in the way of records.

"I found some books of paper clippings with mould all over them and nothing was well looked after and there was very little to really work from."

Instead, Kosmopoulos was left to scour newspapers at the city library for hours upon hours every weekend.

But now as his work nears completion, he says his Hellas history was "well worth the effort."

"I really hope the club will get behind me and help get the work into print," he says.

"I really believe South Melbourne Hellas supporters Australia-wide would treasure such a document."

ASW's Victorian Awards

BY GREG BLAKE

VICTORIA's State League coaches have also sung their praises for Sydney Croatia's newest signing Velimir Kupresak.

In selecting ASW's annual Victorian State League select team the Melbourne coaches have voted Kupresak their Player of the Year.

All the Victorian coaches were asked to select their players of the season on a 3-2-1 basis, excluding players from their own clubs.

Kupresak dominated the voting with 11 of the 16 coaches selecting him in the top three of the year.

Kupresak, along with Northcote's Martin Woodall and Morwell Falcons' Ron Manley, were the only players to reach double figures in the voting.

Not one goalkeeper polled a vote from the coaches so ASW has selected Springvale youngster Robert Brian between the sticks in its team of the year.

Brian got the nod just ahead of Croydon's Mirko Runje.

The Team of the Year was over-loaded with midfielders and three were unlucky to miss out.

Up front the Morwell pair of Ron Manley and Billy Wright just edged out Green Gully's Tom Daly in a three-way duel for a striking role.

In defence, only one full-back — Bulleen's Tony Marsan — managed a vote and he slots in at right-back.

Versatile Adrian Pender, as good a player as sweeper or in the midfield, is at left-back to fill the gap with Paul Harris and Drazen Bozic in the central defensive roles.

ASW's Victorian State League team of the year is:

R. Brian (Springvale), T. Marsan (Bull), D. Bozic (St Alb), P. Harris (Nth), A. Pender (GG), J. McBride (Mor. F), R. Minichiello (Juve), V. Kupresak (St Alb), M. Woodall (Nth), R. Manley (Mor. F), B. Wright (Mor. F).

Substitutes: S. Lane (Juve), W. Herd (Juve), N. van Egmond (Croy) and T. Daly (GG).

HOW THE COACHES VOTED IN THE ASW VIC. STATE LEAGUE TEAM OF THE YEAR:

Bill Murray (Alt Gate)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Woodall (Nth)
1 — Bonk (Pol)

Branko Culina (St Alb)
3 — Minichiello (Juve)
2 — Manley (Mor. F)
1 — Corvan (Ring)

Alan Gentry (Bull)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Woodall (Nth)
1 — Coker (Nth)

Ray MacLaren (Nth)
3 — Lane (Juve)
2 — Kupresak (St Alb)
1 — McBride (Mor. F)

Hans Petersen (Ring)
3 — Woodall (Nth)
2 — Manley (Mor. F)
1 — Minichiollo (Juve)

Rob Nelson (Pol)
3 — Harris (Nth)
2 — Pender (GG)
1 — Dick (F. Pines)

Ian Dobson (Croy)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Woodall (Nth)
1 — Manley (Mor. F)

B. Rogers (Juve)
3 — Harris (Nth)
2 — Daly (GG)
1 — McMullen (Alt. G)

Willie Vassallo (GG)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Wright (Mor. F)
1 — Bozic (St Alb)

Roberto Vieri (Thom)
3 — Minichiello (Juve)
2 — Hanley (Mor. F)
1 — Woodall (Nth)

Cedo Cirkovic (Fawk)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Van Egmond (Croy)
1 — Manley (Mor. F)

Jim Condilis (Caul)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — McBride (Mor. F)
1 — van Egmond (Croy)

Bob McLachlan (Mor. F)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Herd (Juve)
1 — Marsan (Bull)

Joe Sweeney (F. Pines)
3 — Kupresak (St Alb)
2 — Woodall (Nth)
1 — Wright (Mor. F)

Gus McLeod (Spring)
3 — Manley (Mor. F)
2 — Herd (Juve)
1 — Kupresak (St Alb)

John Brown (Box H)
3 — Pender (GG)
2 — Kupresak (St Alb)
1 — McBride (Mor. F)

Final votes: 29 Kupresak, 12 Woodall, 11 Manley, Minichiello, 6 Harris, 5 Pender, 4 McBride, Herd, 3 van Egmond, Wright, Lane, 2 Daly, 1 Bonk, Corvan, McMullen, Marsan, Coker, Bozic and Dick.

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KU-RING-GAI IN FIJIAN TOURNAMENT

Special report by John Economos in Fiji

KU-RING-GAI's Select X1 in the over 30s' Pacific Soccer Tournament, staged in Fiji recently, finished a most creditable third despite searing heat and much younger opposition from some of their Fijian and New Zealand opponents.

The South Pacific Soccer Tournament, organised by Sydney's Sportwell Tours and New Zealand's Go-Sport Tours, was an outstanding success as far as a most pleasant, congenial soccer holiday goes.

Eight teams in all took part.

Avondale United from New Zealand won the tournament with another Kiwi side, Waikato Unicol from Hamilton, in second place.

Ian Johnson (left) with Peter Mason before a match.

With Ku-Ring-gai in third spot, a team from Auckland, Metro, filled the fourth position.

The other four teams, all Fijian, were Green Star, Hyatt Regency, Police and Town, all of which finished well out of the money.

It was fun, fun all the way with plenty of sun, swimming, eating, some football and, last but not least, drinking.

That was one contest the Aussies won hands down...

The Fijian waitresses at the plush tropical Hyatt Regency Hotel, in complete disbelief, were run off their feet carting a sea of stubbies of Fiji Bitter to the squad of players from Ku-Ring-gai, possessed with an unquenchable thirst.

Chief organiser of the Aussie troops was none other than Sydney businessman Peter Mason, a goalkeeper, who saw that the supply of Fijian beer was never impeded by any unforeseen factor.

Brooklyn Oyster farmer, Ian ('Mr Nice Guy') Johnson, as well as winning a Man Of The Match award, took out the Player of The Series trophy for turning in some exceptionally courageous displays in goal.

"I feel very honoured and completely overcome as I have never before won anything in my life," exclaimed a delighted Ian Johnson when presented with his two awards.

Other Man Of Match awards went to tall centre-back Mal McKellar, mobile midfielder Mike ('Shaky') Shakeshaft and left-back Ted ('Rambo') Hearns.

Top goalscorer for the Aussies was striker Graeme ('American Express') Burns.

Peter Mason told ASW: "The boys who play for North Ryde RSL linked up with those from the Brooklyn club to make up the Ku-ring-gai squad.

"They had never played together but we improved with each game. This was a most enjoyable and unforgetable tournament."

The Ku-ring-gai squad was heavily sprinkled with sharp-witted personalities , including Terry ('Mr Cool') Townsend, Steve ('Emu') Summerell, Arthur ('The Butcher') Maitland and Dave ('Torpedos') Strangward.

The Aussie staccato of jokes had the entire holiday resort rolling in laughter.

The tournament festivities climaxed with a typical Fijian Lovo feast as the teams were entertained by Fijians in full dress with songs and dances.

Left to right: Terry Townsend (North Ryde RSL), John Economos and Ian Johnson (Brooklyn) in the lobby of the plush Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Next October, the over 30s tournament will be staged on the Gold Coast as Go-Sport from New Zealand is about to take over the Golden Oldies of years gone by.

Travelling members of the Ku-ring-gai squad were: Peter Mason, Terry Townsend, Ian Johnson, Graeme Burns, Mal McKellar, Mike Shakeshaft, Ted Hearns, Grahame Read, Grahame Coote, Vic Henderson, Ian Broadhead, Alan Wagner, Paul Webb, Dave Strangward, Arthur Maitland, Geoff Watts, Karl Sansom, Steve Summerell, Mark Vormister, Alec Ramsey.

The Ku-ring-gai squad which finished third in the over 30s Fijian tournament behind two teams from New Zealand.

VICTORIA

Hellas takes Dockerty Cup

BY GREG BLAKE

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas successfully completed its bid for back-to-back Dockerty Cup wins when it took out the 1989 final 1-0 against State League outfit Altona Gate at Olympic Park last Sunday.

For Hellas boss Ferenc Puskas the victory capped a memorable pre-season campaign as his new team landed him a trophy at the first attempt.

But Altona Gate coach Bill Murray *wasn't* too dejected after seeing his underdogs give the NSL team a run for its money over the 90 minutes.

Murray, already a three-time Dockerty Cup runner-up with previous clubs Box Hill and Preston Makedonia, was true to his pre-match word as he sent his young charges out to attack Hellas from the outset.

Hellas, boasting an infinitely more experienced team and an impressive new forward set-up, enjoyed the relative freedom but squandered the best of its scoring opportunities, particularly as the match opened up in the final 20 minutes.

In the end it took a 67th minute Paul Trimboli "special" to decide the 80-year-old trophy.

Altona Gate's defence, led impressively by goalkeeper Stuart Lee and sweeper Darren Byrne, had limited South Melbourne's chances before half-time but there was little they could do to stop Trimboli's match-winner as he knocked the ball home on the turn after Paul Wade's header from a Peter Tsolakis corner had set him up inside the box.

Danny Wright had hit the woodwork for Hellas before half-time but Altona Gate's Goran Georgevski returned the fire just after the interval with a shot which shaved the post.

ARMSTRONG CUP FINAL: Box Hill 3 Caulfield City 0.

★★★

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas have signed Juventus' Mehmet Durakovic, who was on loan to JUST last season.

Player of the Year

Adam Sandy (centre) receives his award as Wollongong Macedonia Player of the Year last Saturday at the St Dimitri's Macedonian Church Hall from Vicky Angeloska of CRN BOR Furniture Warehouse while club secretary Lou Stefanovski looks on.

JUNIOR CLUBS AND SCHOOLS

SEND your stories and photographs to AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY. Team and action photos will be welcomed.
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The Western Sydney Swans squad before their 3-3 draw with the White Eagles.

The White Eagles squad lines up before a capacity crowd at the Fairfield Leisure Centre for their match against the Western Sydney Swans.

White Eagles' Milan Blagojevic is denied by Swans' goalkeeper Bruce Thurlow.

SWANS v EAGLES PICTORIAL

One of the many exciting goalmouth incidents during the 3-3 thriller.

Photos by Hector Carrasco

Angelo Rodic, the White Eagles 'keeper, saves from Ercan Osman.

White Eagles' top goalscorer Radovan Filipovic leads Brett Duval and Robbie Noggler a merry chase.

Tornadoes roar on

NIB TORNADOES 10
W. SYD SWANS 1

In a game which saw the NIB Tornadoes take the court without regular players Kim Lembryk and Airene Sein, the Tornadoes were still far too good and took the game to the West Sydney Swans.

And with Cindy Heydon leading the Tornadoes on as usual, and some fine running off the ball by Teresa McCann, it was no surprise when Julie Dolan scored the first goal of the match in the second minute.

The game seesawed for some time but then in the space of seven minutes the Tornadoes scored five goals with McCann scoring in the 12th and 13th minutes, Dolan in the 16th and 19th minutes and Kim Lembryk scored her only goal of the match in the 20th minute after she had been on the court for five minutes only.

The Tornadoes led 6-0 at the break and were firmly home and hosed when coach Nick Nicolopoulos used Cathy McCully for the first time this season and she made her mark on the match immediately to score in the 23rd minute.

Further goals by Teresa McCann (2) and Cindy Heydon gave the Tornadoes a 10-0 lead.

Kris James scored the consolation for the Swans a minute from full-time.

TORNADOES: Cooperthwaite, Young, McCann, Lembryk, Heydon, Sein, McCully, Fabian.

SWANS: Halfacre, Druce, Wingrove, Byers, M. Geribo, Withers, Hirons, Scott, James, L. Geribo, Berg, Stariha.

SCORERS: Dolan (4), McCann (3), Lembryk, Heydon, McCully for Tornadoes, James for Swans.

Western Australia

Alan Vest shock — sacked by WA's Perth Italia!

from RICHARD KREIDER in Perth

PERTH Italia shocked the local soccer fraternity last weekend with the double revelation that they have axed coach Alan Vest, and then immediately aquired the signature of Floreat Athena coach Ken Worden for the 1990 season.

The bombshell eventuated following lengthy discussions at an Italia committee meeting last Thursday where it was agreed that they replace Vest, just weeks after he had successfully guided the two-year-old club to the super league title and two other trophies.

Italia president, Vince Carlino was the supplier of bad tidings to Vest who still had two years of a three-year contract to fulfil.

"The board felt that Alan couldn't fit into our long terms" said Carlino. "So we asked him to stand down, and I am pleased to report that we have parted on an amicable basis."

Vest has understandably called it a "surprising" decision considering his recent successes.

"They musn't think we've achieved enough," he said with subdued perplexity. "I have left this club in a better shape than what it was when I arrived."

ALAN VEST

And judging by his past achievements, it is indeed a comment he could confidently reiterate for many clubs that he has worked with here in Australia and overseas.

Certain contractual clauses are preventing Vest from saying too much at the moment, but he did say he is going to sit back for a while and ponder over the options. One such option, not surprisingly, was an offer to take over the helm at Athena which he currently has yet to accept.

Ken Worden has also experienced considerable good fortune as a coach, especially during the last three years with the Floreat club.

"Ken had no further incentive at Athena," said Carlino.

"He is now looking forward to the new challenge."

Italia's long-term plans obviously include entering a team in the NSL (they have already registered the name — Perth United).

And as anticipated, they are experiencing more than their fair share of obstructions.

One such dilemma involves a strong rumour regarding the WA club having to subsidise the other eastern clubs' airfares on the Adelaide-Perth leg.

It's gossip that does not impress the Italia president.

"We shouldn't have to pay anything to the other clubs" said Carlino.

"They are only going to make one trip per season to WA, whilst we have to travel every other week".

"Once we get the WA Soccer Federation's blessing, and agree to the ASF's acceptance criteria, it's all systems go.

"But if they (ASF) don't want us, well Australian soccer is going to lose. Our next alternative would be to look towards a South-East Asian competition, but only as a last resort."

JAMES HARDIE NATIONAL INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

Compiled by ASW INDOOR EXPERT JOE DI MEGLIO

Tornadoes back in title race

BANKSTOWN NIB Tornadoes, the three times national champions, threw this year's title wide open when they downed previously unbeaten leaders West Sydney Swans 4-3 in an absolute thriller before a full house at Fairfield Leisure Centre on Saturday evening.

The Tornadoes, boosted by the return of Australian international Glen "Java" Jeffreys, are gradually hitting top form at the right time after a slow start to the season.

With the finals, set down for the State Sports Centre, Homebush on December 8/9, just over a month away, many of the league's experts are predicting the Tornadoes will win the title for a record fourth time.

More disturbing for the other title aspirants is that the Tornadoes hit the crossbar five times, scored an "own goal" and missed a penalty in inflicting the first defeat of the season on the Swans in 14 matches.

How serious the Tornado threat will be can be gauged from next week's match of the round at Fairfield Leisure Centre when the Tornadoes meet second placed Sydney White Eagles.

In other James Hardie NISL games over the weekend, the Swans stayed on top of the ladder, thanks to a 3-0 win over AMIGA Commodores on Sunday while the Sydney White Eagles moved to within a point of the Swans at the head of the table with two victories — 7-1 over Illawarra and 8-2 against AMIGA Commodores.

In the Buffalo Womens NISL it was also a good weekend for the Bankstown Tornadoes.

Even without the services of leading scorer Kim Lembryk, the Tornadoes thrashed West Sydney Swans 10-1 and in doing so established a five-point lead over second placed Sydney Strikers.

White Eagles' Radovan Filipovic watches in anguish as his header goes wide of West Sydney Swans' Bruce Thurlow's goal in their recent encounter — HECTOR CARRASCO pic.

great team effort with Steve Knight firing a blistering shot past Bruce Thurlow.

But as has happened in the past, the Tornadoes lost concentration and allowed the Swans' Robbie Noggler to sneak behind the defence and tap the ball into an empty net in the 10th minute.

The Swans were unlucky six minutes later when captain and leading scorer Erkin Osman was involved in a freak accident with the Tornodoes' Steve Knight, which was completely accidental.

Both teams went into the half-time break locked at 1-1.

The match at this stage was an even battle with both teams creating their fair share of opportunities.

The Swans took the lead with a great goal by Noggler which shook the Tornadoes goal from just inside the halfway mark.

two-touch moves, the ball found its way to John White who scored the goal of the season when in a single movement he took on Steve Duval on the wing and shot into the top corner of Bruce Thurlow's net.

To their credit, the Swans came back four minutes later.

Steve Duval had a cracking shot which Psaroudis couldn't handle in the Tornadoes goal and agonisingly the ball bounced into the back of his net to again level the scores.

The Tornadoes were not going to be content with the two points and applied tremendous pressure to rattle their opponents' crossbar on several occasions.

But the Swans couldn't sustain the pressure and after some great lead-up work by Glen Jeffrey and Silva, Steve Knight broke through to give the Tornadoes an unbeatable 4-3 lead.

The game rose to

W.Syd.Swans 3 AMIGA C'dores 0

Western Sydney regained some momentum when they struggled to beat AMIGA Commodores 3-0 in the James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League last Sunday afternoon at Fairfield Leisure Centre.

In this game, Swarovski Swans started without their captain, Erkin Osman following his accident in the Tornadoes game the night before.

This change had the Swans struggling against the committed AMIGA outfit.

Steve Duval had to wait until the 16th minute to register a goal for Western Sydney. His shot was from a long distance away (again) and on the right hand side of the court.

The Swans were compelled to make several substitutions in an endeavour to eliminate errors from their game but whatever they tried, there was no alteration to the scoreboard.

It was only in the 37th minute of the match that Erkin Osman made a jinking run up the centre of the court to score off the far post.

Robbie Noggler completed the scoring when he scrambled a goal from just outside the goal area to wrap-up an unconvincing Swans victory.

SWANS: Thurlow, Ercan Osman, S. Duval, B. Duval, Noggler, Janic, Akkary, Erkin Osman, Dene, Saville, Umpleby.

AMIGA: Griffiths, Dalton, S. Gilligan, Davis, Younan, Ignacz, Curran, Eagleton, Vaiarella, Cowley, Gasparovic, Bennell.

SCORERS: S. Duval, Erkin Osman, Noggler for Swans.

NIB TORNADOES 4 W SYD SWANS 3

The return match between the NIB Tornadoes and the West Sydney Swans always promised to be a thrilling encounter bringing former team mates and no less than seven internationals up against each other at this crucial stage of the season.

The Tornadoes started the game at a fierce pace and took the game to the their opponents.

Their sustained pressure was rewarded in the second minute after a

Bruce Thurlow about to grab the ball from the grasp of the White Eagles forwards — HECTOR CARRASCO photo.

Not perturbed, the Tornadoes came back at the Swans and were rewarded with a superb solo goal by John White.

The Swans had their opportunity to take the lead in the 30th minute when Robbie Stuart handled on his own goal line.

Steve Duval stepped forward to take the kick and could only watch in anguish as his shot went wide of the Tornadoes goal.

In the next passage of play, and after some great heights, with some good displays from both teams, but a special mention must go to referee Mark Cotter, who was in control from start to finish, showed great composure at all times and allowed the game to flow freely.

TORNADOES: G. Psaroudis, Knight, Stuart, M. Psaroudis, Tour, Silva, White, Jeffrey, Cross, Bateman, Board, Gavin.

SWANS: Thurlow, Ercan Osman, Dene, Wilson, S. Duval, Umpleby, Erkin Osman, Noggler, Spirovski, B. Duval, Janic, Saville.

SCORERS: Knight (2), White (2) for Tornadoes, Noggler (2), S. Duval for Swans.

THE JAMES HARDIE NATIONAL INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

THE BUFFALO SPORTS WOMENS NATIONAL INDOOR SOCCER LEAGUE

JHNISL POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Sydney Swans	15	11	3	1	100	40	39
White Eagles	15	12	1	2	172	71	38
Melbourne Buffalos	15	9	3	3	105	70	33
B'town NIB Tornadoes	15	9	2	4	87	65	31
Valley Ford Falcons	15	5	1	9	117	128	17
Inter Monaro	11	5	0	6	72	100	15
AMIGA Commodores	16	3	2	11	66	110	13
Brisbane Baysiders	11	4	0	7	54	93	12
Sydney Strikers	12	1	2	9	56	102	7
Illawarra Health Fund	11	2	0	9	59	109	6

Results

Bankstown NIB Tornadoes 4 West Sydney Swans 3, White Eagles 8 AMIGA Commodores 2, West Sydney Swans 3 AMIGA Commodores 0, White Eagles 7 Illawarra Health Fund 4.

Top Scorers

Radovan Filipovic (White Eagles) 52, Milan Blagojevic (White Eagles) 51, John Metaxas (Melbourne Buffalos) 32, Erkin Osman (Melbourne Buffalos) 30, Fortunato Carvalho (Melbourne Buffalos) 29, Miodrag Radovic (White Eagles), Eric Sostak (Valley Ford Falcons) 25, Rodney White (Valley Ford Falcons) 22, Scott Gilligan (AMIGA Commodores) 21, Baz Giampaolo (Inter Monaro), Anthony Cassar (Valley Ford Falcons) 20, Abbas Saad (NIB Tornadoes), Joe Coelho (Illawarra Health Fund) 19.

BSWNISL POINTS TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
B'town NIB Tornadoes	9	8	1	0	88	25	26
Sydney Strikers	9	7	0	2	53	24	21
Melbourne Buffalos	8	3	1	4	38	34	11
West Sydney Swans	8	2	0	6	31	56	6
Brisbane Baysiders	5	1	0	4	19	48	3
T'makers Prime Movers	7	1	0	6	20	52	3

Results

Bankstown NIB Tornadoes 10 West Sydney Swans 1.

Top Scorers

Kim Lembryk (NIB Tornadoes) 36, Cindy Heydon (NIB Tornadoes) 21, Nicole Komorowski (Sydney Strikers) 18, Julie Dolan (NIB Tornadoes), Julie Hebb (Sydney Strikers) 14, Teresa McCann (NIB Tornadoes) 13, Carol Church (Melbourne Buffalos) 11, Wendy Kinmont, Janine McPhee (Melbourne Buffalos), Leanne Edmundson, Debbie Hyde (Sydney Strikers), Zafaria Memperis (Tubemakers) 10.

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

JHNISL

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4

Sydney Strikers v Valley Ford Falcons
Fairfield Leisure Centre 7.15pm
White Eagles v Bankstown NIB Tornadoes
Fairfield Leisure Centre 9pm
Brisbane Baysiders v Inter Monaro
Chandler Stadium 7pm
Illawarra Health Fund v AMIGA Commodores
Beaton Park Leisure Centre TBA

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5

Sydney Strikers v Melbourne Buffalos
Fairfield Leisure Centre 11am
Illawarra Health Fund v White Eagles
Beaton Park Leisure Centre TBA
Inter Monaro v West Sydney Swans
Civic YMCA Canberra TBA
Brisbane Baysiders v Valley Ford Falcons
Chandler Stadium TBA

BSWNISL

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4

Illawarra Tubemakers v West Sydney Swans
Fairfield Leisure Centre 12.30pm

BUFFALO SPORTS
AMIGA commodore COMPUTER
nib Health Funds Ltd
Sponsored by: SWAROVSKI and the German Austrian Club
ILLAWARRA HEALTH FUND
prime TELEVISION
TUBEMAKERS METALCENTRE
ALOSSIE WALLY

Alex McPherson's out for revenge

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

WHEN newly promoted Melita Eagles face up to 1989 grand finalists Sydney Olympic at South Granville on Sunday, December 3, there will be far more than the two competition points at stake for one of Melita's most faithful servants.

That's the day when 32-year-old goalkeeper Alex McPherson has been patiently waiting for so he could finally put to rest a nightmare 1986 season at the now defunct Sydney City under current Olympic boss Eddie Thomson.

McPherson had gone to the Slickers with high expectations of establishing himself in a side where honours had been won year after year with almost monotonous regularity.

Just 12 months earlier he had left his beloved Eagles for a chance to play National League football at Marconi.

He did not have long to wait, an early season injury to regular keeper Bruce James gave McPherson the opportunity of grabbing the goalkeeper's shirt and hanging on to it for the rest of the year.

When Sydney City allowed Tony Pezzano to go to Apia at the beginning of the following season, Thomson saw McPherson as his ideal replacement and lured him from Marconi with an offer which the keeper eagerly accepted.

Here was the big break that McPherson had been waiting for ever since migrating from England's soccer hotbed of Liverpool. Here was the chance to be a part of what had become a colossus in Australian soccer.

Little did he realise how disastrous a move that was going to be and how close it was going to bring his career to a premature end.

Sydney City had always been notoriously slow starters in the league but 1986 proved to be the worst they had experienced for many years. Nine matches produced five draws, two defeats and only two victories.

The writing for McPherson was already on the wall.

"Eddie Thomson had a team in which a number of key players were all starting to get on a bit" McPherson observed last week. "Great stalwarts who had held the side together for so long like Alex Robertson, Steve O'Connor, Joe Watson, Murray Barnes, Ian Souness and John Kosmina had all passed their peak at the same time."

Up until then, the Slickers had gotten used to brushing their opponents aside with a great deal of arrogance but

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Alex McPherson — out to prove his old coach wrong when the Eagles meet Olympic next month.

EDITOR

WELL, the kick-off of summer soccer has finally arrived.

It must be made a success, because a retreat to the 'normal' season would be a defeat for the code.

Initially ASW did not support the change — for good reasons.

The foundations were not in place.

To be frank, only a certain portion of them have been laid at this stage.

But if, by next May, a reasonable increase in attendances has been recorded, then something will have been accomplished.

The big plus with the NSL is the number of Australian-born or trained players who have come through the ranks.

Losses have been incurred to overseas clubs.

These a developing sport really cannot afford, but new challenges are for players who are working their way up through the ranks.

Up until the week before kick-off there has been little evidence of the necessary amount of publicity being generated.

Hopefully, better promotion will occur, and better results will be achieved.

Unfortunately, it is necessary to keep underlining deficiencies in the game to the Australian Soccer Federation and the National Soccer League.

In 1986 a move was made that was deliberately designed to rub out all but Melbourne and Sydney clubs from the NSL.

Clubs from other cities dropped out by the narrowest of margins.

The game has suffered ever since, and officials who designed the backward step are still there.

Will the long-suffering soccer public be treated to something better this year?

We shall see.

Certainly summer soccer is only one aspect of what should have been a widely structured plan, rather than the key point in a limited plan.

Other sports are miles ahead in their planning, promotion and management.

Pointing that out is not just criticism. It is fact and until it is realised there will only be limited general progress.

At the same time, compared with years ago and thanks to mainly voluntary workers, various clubs have made hard earnt and genuine progress.

Sunday black-out in Sydney may come back to haunt the NSL

BY LOU GAUTIER

THE decision by the National Soccer League, prompted by its member clubs let me hasten to add, not to play any Sunday games in Sydney in no less than seven competition rounds, is quite astonishing.

Now let me get this straight: one of the reasons for switching seasons, we were told, was to get increased media coverage.

If that is so, then the lack of games on Sundays will have quite the opposite effect.

In Sydney, the DAILY MIRROR does not publish on Sunday, neither does THE AUSTRALIAN, so this means there will be no exposure for matches played on Saturday, much to the chagrin of soccer writers Ray Gatt and Tom Anderson.

The SYDNEY MORNING HERALD's prolific Mike Cockerill does not contribute to Sunday's SUN-HERALD, which means Saturday's NSL matches in Sydney will only be reported in abbreviated form in the Sunday paper, via Australian Associated Press.

This leaves only John Taylor, amongst the Sydney scribes, to report at length on Saturday's games in the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH.

I wish the NSL and especially the clubs had gone into the vexed question of Saturday matches more carefully.

They obviously have again not thought of the consequences of their actions.

So instead of the increased coverage hoped for, it is almost certain Sydney clubs, at least, will be getting much less.

The position is different in Melbourne, which now has three Sunday papers engaged in cut-throat competition.

They already give soccer ample coverage in their expanded sports pages and are bound to give oodles of space to the 1989/90 NSL season, ditto for Adelaide where the week day soccer writers double up in their papers' Sunday editions.

It's only in Sydney — where the NSL was hoping for a spectacular increase in attendances and greater press coverage — where Sunday press cover presents a problem.

It's not too late to put it right.

If things are allowed to stay as they are, one of the benefits of a summer season will just not materialise.

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CLUB MARCONI

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4

Marconi proudly sponsored by BRESCIA FURNITURE

APIA Leichhardt
V
Adelaide Hellas
6PM

Marconi
V
Sydney Olympic
8PM

All systems go for SBS — Les Murray

ASW EXCLUSIVE BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ACE SBS-TV sports presenter Les Murray is back from a 44-day whirlwind tour of Italy, covering all 12 cities in which World Cup matches will be contested next year when 24 nations compete for sport's most prestigious prize.

All of this, of course, will be fully covered by SBS-TV and beamed back live via satellite into Australia.

SBS-TV's coverage will be a massive project, embracing the live telecasting of all 52 matches contested.

Earlier this week, I caught up with Les for a chat on his Italian sojourn and to learn just what the Italians have done or are still doing in preparation for the finals next year.

"FIFA couldn't have picked a better country for the finals. The entire nation is football-mad and the media coverage reaches saturation levels daily," he said.

"The 12 stadiums are either new or have been greatly upgraded for this massive event.

"They are 21st century standard with space-aged technology used extensively both on and off the playing surfaces.

"For example, special underground storage tanks trap rain water which is automatically fed back to the grass on the surface from below, as the water is needed.

"The Bari Stadium is most impressive, with plenty of Japanese hi-tech being used everywhere. Security measures to combat outbreaks of hooligan activity is first-class.

"It has a space-aged designed teflon roof and the press facilities are nothing short of immaculate as well as unbelievable.

"Special motorways leading into the stadium enable pressmen to bypass traffic jams, park comfortabley, walk an underground tunnel to a lift and ride up into their seats in the grandstand section sealed off for the media.

"The San Siro Stadium in Milan probably is the best of them all.

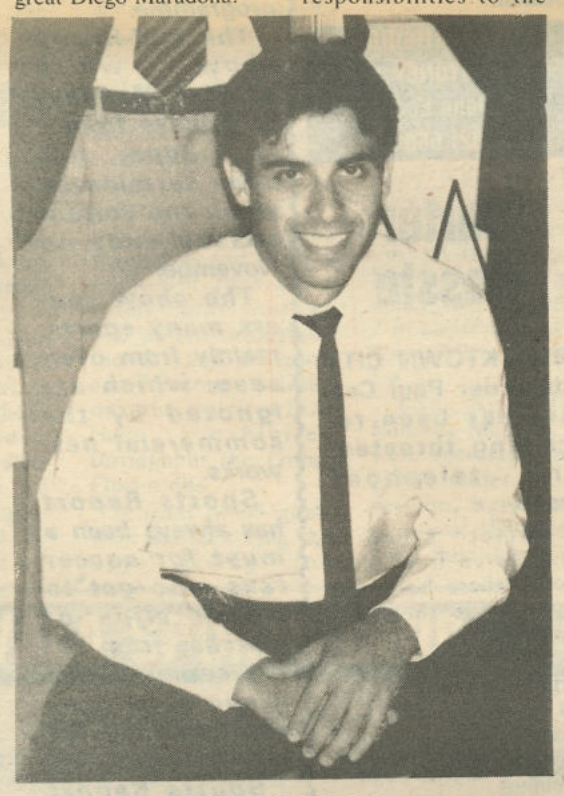
"Here we have a mega-structure unequalled in the world as far as a sports centre is concerned.

"The Italians have added a third tier to the existing structure, plus a roof.

"The closeness, or tightness if you like, to all the action, generates a spectacular atmosphere.

"The infra-structure of staging the World Cup in this wonderful country shows the Italians are well on track for the most spectacular World Cup of all time," Les enthused.

Whilst in Italy, Les Murray was able to grab some very precious, if not rare minutes, to interview no less than the great Diego Maradona.



DOMINIC GALATI: flat out.

The interview will be screened by SBS-TV in the next couple of weeks.

"Although he doesn't speak English, Maradona is fully aware of his responsibilities to the media," Les said.

"He is a very pleasant fellow despite having chunks of his body ripped out by vicious tackles from his opponents. He has learnt to shoulder the burden of being the world's Number One player.

"Maradona is charming and friendly. Despite having given no less than 16 interviews before I got to him, he was still willing to give us some of his time, especially when he was alerted I was from Australia.

"The top stars do not leave the stadiums till some three hours after fulltime, having to attend to their media commitments and, of course, for security reasons.

"Italy is a magnificent country, heavily enriched with historic architecture and culture," Les Murray added.

"It is a country which has an enormous amount to offer to the tourist, not just soccer. It is warm, colourful and highly attractive with just so much to see.

"SBS-TV's elaborate coverage next year will attempt to convey the magnificence of Italy as a country.

"At this stage we envisage an air-lift of over 20 technicians and commentators from Australia to Italy where we will set up a full production centre in Rome to cover all 12 centres where the matches will be staged," Les informed ASW.

Meanwhile, SBS-TV's young and dynamic Executive Sports Producer and Head of Soccer, Dominic Galati, also spent time in Italy recently, tying up some loose ends in readiness for next year's giant event.

Dominic told us: "I had many meetings with various Italian World Cup organisers over there as well as checking out most of the sites we will be shooting from.

"Then it was off to London to stitch up for SBS some of the world's best English-language soccer commentators, including John Motson, Martin Tyler and Barry Davies.

"We are going to be flat out from now until the kick-off date of June 8, 1990 as we have an enormous amount of co-ordinating and scheduling to do.

"SBS will, of course, also be bringing in the live telecast of the World Cup finals draw direct from Italy on December 10," Dominic added.

Les Murray at Milan's San Siro Stadium a couple of hours before the kick-off of the summit match between Inter and Juventus. The empty bit is the new tier of terracing, with part of the new roof visible. When finished, San Siro will rival Barcelona's Nou Camp or the Azteca in in Mexico City, in design if not capacity.

POINTS

STARTING this season ASW is instituting a system of points ratings for all players and for the referee who will be rated on a scale of 0 to 10 points during the NSL premiership.

10 points — out of this world, 9 — brilliant, 8 — very good, 7 — good, 6 — above average, 5 — average, 4 — mediocre, 3 — poor, 2 — very poor, 1 — horrendous, 0 — diabolical.

Charity Cup on in SA tonight

by ALAN CLARK and LOU GAUTIER

AUSTRALIAN Soccer breaks new ground today (Wednesday) when 1989 champions Marconi play Cup winners Adelaide City for the Charity Cup in Adelaide.

Kick-off is at 7.30pm at Hindmarsh Stadium.

The match is not only a pipe-opener for the inaugural NSL summer season, which starts this weekend, but it will also provide local charities with the proceeds from the match.

Benefitting charities are the Lord Mayor's "I say no to drugs" campaign and the Australian Cranio-Maxillo Facial Foundation.

As part of pre-match entertainment, the Etco Foundation Australia car will be on display.

The National Soccer League intends this new cup format to become a regular annual event, with matches being rotated around the states.

STEVE MAXWELL (Ad City)

In each instance the net proceeds will be donated to special charities in need.

This year's match has drawn national interest and amongst the interstate visitors due to attend are David Hill, chairman of the ABC, and Ross Close of the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation.

Representing the NSL will be chairman Sam Papasavas, Tony Labbozzetta, Tony Kovac, Nick Papallo and Tony Topic (executive members).

Children under 16 will be admitted free to the match

Marconi, fresh from their successful tour of Czechoslovakia, and the always entertaining Adelaide City are sure to turn in a sparkling performance as part of Adelaide's famed Grand Prix week festivities.

Marconi should have much the same line-up as stunned rivals with its artistry last year.

Zlatko Nastevski and Fred de Jong will lead the firepower of last season's top scorers.

But they face an intriguing contest against one of the best defences in the competition in the seond-half of last season.

Robert Zabica was noted a more than competent keeper. Neville Flounders has few peers in central defence and has formed a formidable partnership with Yugoslav import Milan Ivanovich.

City has been hit by close-season surgery to Charley Villani and Paul Shillabeer, who will miss the clash.

Recruiting has been difficult. The outcome of late negotiations will decide if teenage striker Carl Veart joins the club on loan from State League side Salisbury.

He could be the only City new face and may link in attack with Steve Maxwell and Aurelio Vidmar who has decided not to try to pursue his career in Italy.

Joe Mullen may move into a midfield role alongside skipper Sergio Melta and Adrian Santrac.

City could go into the match 'underdone' with limited trial match fitness.

Marconi, on the other hand, if it can overcome jetlag problems, already will be battle-hardened, but all the travelling may be too much for them.

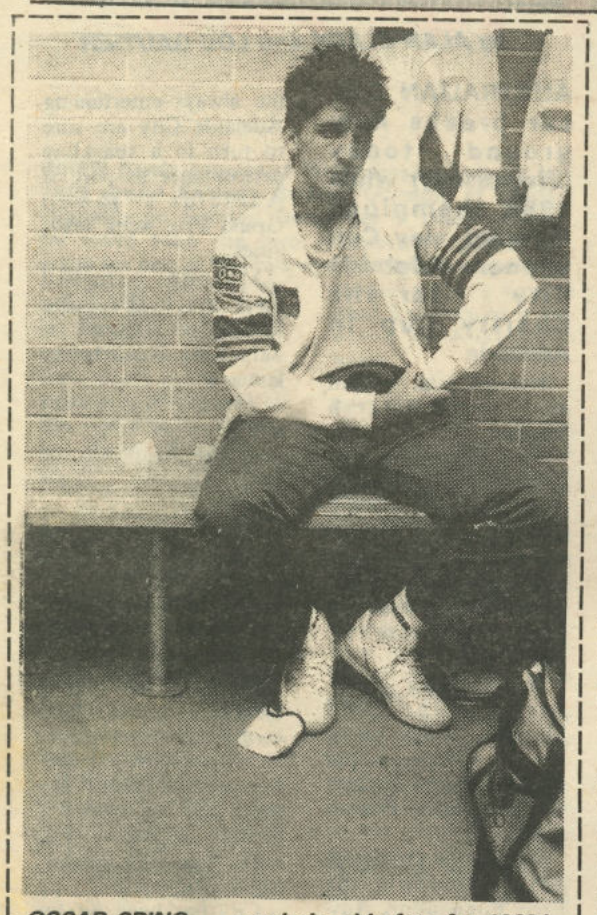
Brazilians seek Aussie tour

ONE of Brazil's most famous clubs is seeking a tour of Australia.

Santos, the team Pele made famous when he played for them for 16 years, is keen to include Australia in a projected tour of South East Asia next year.

If the ASF agrees to terms, it would be Santos' second visit as they were in Sydney for one match in 1972 when a capacity crowd of 31,000-plus saw the Socceroos hold them to a 2-2 draw at the old Sportsground.

Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .



OSCAR CRINO — pondering his fate for 1989/90. Under Victoria's weird regulations he cannot begin negotiations to transfer until December 1.

APIA's home ground, Lambert Park, is being top-dressed, but will be available in the next couple of weeks.

★★★

SOCCEROO Peter Raskopoulos, who has been beset with injuries in recent years, is tipped to join Apia Leichhardt. If 'Rasko' moves to Lambert Park, he will rejoin his former Sydney Olympic team-mate Marshall Soper.

★★★

The Melbourne City JUST syndicate has dropped its asking price for selling the club from $2.4 million to $1.6 million.

Oscar Crino is believed to be involved in protracted discussions about the sale of his share in the club.

Once that has been settled, the Socceroo midfielder is expected to be headed for a Sydney NSL club.

★★★

Sean Lahiff, the young Australian goalkeeper who played professionally in Finland, is returning to Australia.

However, the move is temporary.

He has a few offers of contracts from different European clubs, and will think them over whilst he is holidaying here.

FRED WALL has joined the St George coaching staff and will be handling his goalkeeping specialty.

Last year he was with NSW State League club, Warringah Freshwater, along with Richard Alagich.

Both will also be involved with the forward-looking St George apprenticeship scheme this year.

By the way "young Fred" and wife Elsie have become proud grandparents for the first time.

Daughter-in-law Leanne presented his son Clive with young Zachary — surely a future goalkeeper!

★★★

VELIMIR KUPRESAK, Sydney Croatia's midfield gain from Victorian State League club St Albans, not only won the Gold Medal as the Player of the Year.

He also scooped the pool by taking the Bill Fleming Medal on the votes of the press as well as the Ansett Award.

Kupresak came to Australia after playing with Yugoslav club, Borovo.

The award was sponsored for the first time by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation.

Second place went to Caulfield City's Ken Drakeford.

★★★

PERHAPS the toughest jobs of any clubs in the NSL fall to Melita Eagles and Adelaide Hellas.

Both face back to back seasons, having virtually no respite since ending their respective State League competitions.

★★★

THE NSL only approved the season's arrangements at its annual meeting last Saturday week.

It seems that the real meat of the report submitted by Stefan Kamasz of consultants CSI Ltd has still to receive consideration.

★★★

BY next season it is hoped that the NSL clubs will realise the benefit of having permanent player names on the backs of all shirts.

This would mean a great advantage to both spectators and television viewers.

Watch if it comes about — as a guide to increasing professionalism in the game.

This year the 1-11 plus replacement player numbering system will be in vogue.

★★★

THE National Soccer League Tribunal slashed the transfer fee of David Ratcliffe from St George to Wollongong City, where he will be player-coach, to a mere $300 after the Saints had asked for $12,000. St George president Tony Balazsi said his club had appealed.

★★★

SYDNEY Croatia's Craig Foster has joined brother Paul at Sunshine George Cross. Paul Foster played for South Melbourne last season.

★★★.

GRAHAM Jennings has not given up hope to play for the Socceroos again when the Aussies finally come out of the mothballs against Torpedo Moscow early next year. The Socceroo defender, now with Apia, feels he still has much to contribute to the national team and hopes Frank Arok won't discard him as being "too old".

★★★

BARBARA ANKRAH, currntly on holiday in Australia, knows a certain amount about football.

"She was responsible for the Liverpool Supporters Club, and she is a great worker," said Craig Johnston.

"I am going to try and find a way to get her involved, here."

★★★

Danny Moulis, the former Young Socceroo (1979) attacking fullback, and Canberra City and Sydney Olympic player became a father for the first time last Thursday when his wife Danielle presented him with a baby boy, Alexander. The Moulises live in Canberra where Danny is a junior partner of prestigious law firm Freehill, Hollingdale and Page.

Referees Congress delegate Leo Wilson, NSW, with Tasmania's Brett Mackay.

★★★

MARCONI' Gerry Gomez tried to contact the Costa Rican team which was also touring Europe when Marconi were in Czechoslovakia. Gomez would dearly love to play for his native country in the World Cup finals (Costa Rica qualified from the CONCACAF section). He would be eligible as his three appearances for Australia were not in full internationals, but against club sides.

★★★

JIM PATIKAS was featured in an interview in France's mass-circulation sports daily, "L'Equipe", after he had a goal disallowed in the European Champions' Cup match against Marseille which the Greeks lost 2-0.

Patikas said he was still very much an Aussie and would be heading straight home when his playing days in Greece are over.

He also told 'L'Equipe' he would dearly love to play again for the Socceroos despite the hassles with AEK.

Terry Patalis, who was a substitute in Marseille, also got a mention though his first team appearances for AEK have been rare.

★★★

FIFA referee Donald Campbell's retirement seems to be stimulating interest among clubs.

Three Foundation SA First Division sides and a NSL club are keenly interested in his movements for next season.

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Carter Hassle

BLACKTOWN CITY defender Paul Carter has been receiving threatening telephone calls.

Carter recently transferred from Marconi, where he ended up outside the main team.

An outstanding right-back who is also at home on the left side, he is a great acquisition for the Demons.

Whoever is making the threats somehow has had access to his telephone number, which is an unlisted private line.

And to cap it off, his house was recently broken into.

The family side of Marconi goalscoring ace Zlatko Nastevski. Quietly spoken Zlatko will be roaring like a lion for goals in the coming NSL season — Photo HECTOR CARRASCO.

Save Sports Report

A call to arms!

BY PHIL MARTIN

SOCCER fans, and sports lovers in general, will be the big losers when SBS Television axes its daily Sports Report programme.

The half-hourly show, which screens Mondays to Fridays from 7 to 7.30pm, has been terminated when the current season ends on November 17.

The show covers many sports, mainly from overseas, which are ignored by the commercial networks.

Sports Report has always been a must for soccer fans who get to watch clips of matches from every corner of the globe almost as soon as they are played.

Sports Report has about 300,000 devoted viewers — a drop in the bucket perhaps as far as ratings go, but this is no reason for getting the chop.

SBS TELEVISION

Its closure will force 20 highly competent reporters and production people out of work.

If you feel, as we do, that Sports Report should go on, we suggest you write to the channel and let your views be known.

Write to: Brian Johns, Executive Director, SBS Television, PO Box 0-28, Milsons Point, NSW 2061.

Perhaps it's not too late to save Australian television's one true sports programme from the cost cutters' axe.

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Champion of Champions again a gala event

THE 1989 Commonwealth Bank Champion of Champions Grand Finals were played at the Endeavour Fields, Fairfield last weekend in what could only be described as perfect conditions.

he games kicked off at 9am with the younger age groups and continued through until 6pm when the final balls were kicked in the Men's All Age final.

Highlight of the day for many was the arrival of Craig Johnston, who was introduced to the crowd and spent many hours autographing his book "Walk Alone" which was on sale at the ground, courtesy of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

Johnston also presented a number of the winning teams with their trophies and offered some words of wisdom for the youngsters to soak up.

"If the rest of the team practices for one hour per night then you must practice for three in order to become a better player than them" said Craig after explaining that he was far from being the best player in his team when he was aged 13 and 14.

Southern Districts Association hosted the tournament and the organisation of the day was excellent with no hitches and all games running on time.

A number of the amateurs licensees were supplied with tents to display their merchandise and a number of these also had a selection of equipment on display.

Possibly the pick of the stands from the in-

Craig Johnston with his book

terest point of view was the marketing stand displayed by the NSWASF which was packed with a range of soccer items, from Craig Johnston' book to a huge range of videos and coaching books as well as shirts, hats, bags and badges and much, much more.

A number of the local clubs took care of the catering services and everyone was certainly well fed throughout the day on steak sandwiches, sausages, cakes, drinks and chips.

Throughout the day radio station 2WS was supplied with the results of all the matches as they finished and these were then broadcast to the world for all to hear, which will no doubt prove to be a tremendous advertisement for soccer in general.

To the matches themselves and there is no doubt that some tremendous football was played throughout the day and all teams can be congratulated ont the spirit which they exhibited throughout the Grand Final series.

A total of 65 goals were scored during the day, giving the thousands of spectators who turned out to cheer their side on plenty to be happy about.

Sutherland's Menai under 9 team were the first to pick up honours when they showed plenty of class to down Wakehurst 8-0.

However, this was the only large score of the day and the Wakehurst players, under the guidance of a coach who encouraged his lads all the time, were able to finish with their heads held high and were possibly unlucky not to have scored on a number of occasions.

Macarthur association have cemented the belief in many people's minds that they are the association of the future when they won all three grand finals in which they had teams involved in, defeating Maroubra 3-0 in the under 10s, Corrimal 3-2 in under 12 and Sans Souci 2-0 in the under 13s.

The high-flying Miranda Magpies, who were successful in last year's under 13 competition, were unnable to repeat the performance this season when Cherrywood had their measure, winning 2-0 in an entertaining battle.

Southern Districts achieved their first win of the day via the under 15 Abruzzi team who had only played their semi final the day before against Granville.

The Abruzzi side showed plenty of determination to defeat North Bankstown 2-1.

The first-ever country-based team to win a Champion of Champions medal was the Singleton under 16 outfit, whose team spirit carried the day for them as they beat Lilli Pilli 3-2, further cementing the belief that the country teams are making huge inroads into the city's dominance.

Castle Hill under 17s were defeated on penalties by Randwick after a very close and hard fought affair while North Epping proved too strong for Revesby Milperra in the under 18s, winning 3-0.

The three women's matches were all close encounters, with nothing between the teams which is indicated by the close results with the Crest overcoming Panania 1-0, under 17 ladies Liverpool Albion accounting for Condell Park 5-4 and the Liverpool Warriors making it three out of threee for Southern Districts by winning the All Age ladies 2-1.

Cronulla Seagulls under 21 team scored two brilliant goals to knock off the champion Gladesville Hornsby team 2-1, while in the All Age Men's, Brookvale had a classy 2-0 win over Carlton in a tremendous head to head battle of the big boys.

FINAL RESULTS: U9 Menai 8 Wakehurst 0, U10 Macarthur 3 Maroubra 0, U11 Winston Hills 0 Revesby Workers 3, U12 Macarthur 3 Corrimal 2, U13 Ingleburn RSL 2 Sans Souci 0, U14 Cherrywood 2 Miranda 0, U15 Nth Bankstown 1 Abruzzi 2, U16 Singleton 3 Lilli Pilli 2, U17 Castle Hill 6 Randwick 7, U18 North Epping 3 Revesby Milperra 0, U21 West Pennant Hills 1 Cronulla Seagulls 2, AA Brookvale 2 Carlton 0, U15 Ladies Crest 1 Panania 0, U17 Ladies Liverpool Albion 5 Condell Park 4, AA Ladies Liverpool Warriors 1 Mt Druitt 2.

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RIVERINA REGION 1989

RIVERINA REGION: Jason Pullen (Kooringal), Richard Reid (Kooringal), Dominic Portolesi, Dave Rule, Michael Musitano, Anthony Martinello, Greg Ceccato (Wade), Travis Payne (Griffith), Jason Lal (Griffith), Jason Salan (Mt Austin), Stephen McDowell (Albury North), Damien Ruitenberg (Albury North), David Neall (Albury), Richard Read (Kooringal), Robert Tuksar (Albury). TEAM MANAGER: Rick Porter (Murray).

1989 Turner Cup highlights

Always a strong soccer school, Epping Boys won the Area 9 (Sydney B) in fine style. They scored 14 goals to none against in normal play. The only time the ball hit the back of their net was in their 0-5 penalties to 0-4 penalties win over Drummoyne in Round Three.

★★★

There are 10 Education Regions in Queensland and schools from seven of them played in this year's Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup. Regions represented were South (Gold Coast), Brisbane South, Brisbane North, West Moreton, Sunshine Coast, Darling Downs and Wide Bay.

★★★

Blakehurst from the St George-Sutherland region played only its second season in this competition. Winning the Area 12 (Sydney E) final was a great effort.

★★★

The number of ladies who are coaching or managing teams has risen this year. The following are the ones we know about; Cathy Gray, Castle Hill; Trixie Tagg, Concord; Jan Collins, Condell Park; Lisa Petterson, James Ruse High; Michelle Royle, Robert Townson High; Lorrae Sampson, St Clair; Pam Springfield, St Johns Park; Sharon Brown, Whalan; Jackie Le Cornu, Red Bend College, Forbes.

★★★

Last year the Newcastle-Hunter co-ordinator Dudley Lewis managed three night promotions out of a possible nine. With the big wet this year he didn't score one. 1990 will have to be a boom season.

★★★

Young Mark Bosnich who just a few years ago played custodian for the Liverpool Boys Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup team is presently reserve keeper with Manchester United.

★★★

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL NOW AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS

A brilliant move by Sam Tancred as he wrong foots David Harasti, and shoots for goal. Tancred had a top game for Lismore's Trinity College but Harasti had his revenge when Canberra High got up to win 1-0. The match was the third place play-off in the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup series played at Macquarie Field Speers Point on September 6.

There is a phenomenon called the . . . "Luck of the Draw" . . . and it's real. It usually relates to the home or away travel situation. Last year Figtree travelled to Eden, Sydney and Griffith before going to Macquarie Field. Port Macquarie travelled up and down the North Coast and St Peters had a few days away at Armidale. But some of the boys who thought they were hard done by came from Patrician Bros, Fairfield . . . the only real trip away they got was to go up for the semi-finals.

★★★

This year one result prevented an amazing situation from occuring. Playing from position No 8 on the NSW Far North Coast draw, Trinity College Lismore had a home game in Round 2 but that would have been the only one they would have received, had Shalom College, Bundaberg defeated Alexandra Hills. There are several factors to be considered once a team reaches the last 16, such as previous home and away and distances already travelled — by both teams. Alexandra Hills won, so giving them an away game in Lismore.

The possibility and probability of a team having one home game in eight fixtures may appear incredible but it certainly is possible.

★★★

Macquarie Field, Speers Point is the home ground of the Northern NSW State First Division club . . . Lake Macquarie City. It is situated on the northern tip of beautiful Lake Macquarie. Once again we are grateful to the club's executive for the use of the ground for this final series of fixtures.

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JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Osman magic

TWO brothers who learnt their footballing skills in pick-up games on the dusty back streets of the Cypriot city of Limassol are two very good reasons why Australia is set to win its first major international Futsal tournament.

26-year-old Erkin and 24-year-old Ercan Osman, also two reasons incidentally why the West Sydney Swans are among the favourite for this season's James Hardie NISL title, have been selected in the Australian team which travels to Mexico City for the second Pacific Cup later next month.

The national teams of Mexico, USA, Japan, Canada, Puerto Rico, Cuba and New Zealand will participate in the second Pacific Cup, the first of which was staged in Australia in 1987 with Mexico beating Australia 6-2 in the overtime final after the scores were level 1-1 at full time.

For Erkin, captain of the West Sydney Swans and rated the finest player in Australia, it is a game he will never forget.

"In the dying seconds of normal time with the scores locked at 1-1, I missed the easiest of chances, one that I should have put away, it is the biggest disappointment of my life," reflects the elder brother, who is a superannuation fund manager with AMP.

ERCAN and ERKIN OSMAN

"We have improved out of sight since then, touring South America, finishing sixth in the World Cup, and benefitting from playing for the best against the best in the weekly James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League games."

Erkin spoke of other times in Cyprus.

"In those early days it was like Brazil — no facilities so kids play football day and night in the streets, it is a great skill developer."

The Osman brothers rely on one another a lot, and that is one reason that sees their club among the favourites for this year's national title.

The West Sydney Swans, 1988 champions Melbourne Buffalos, the free-scoring Sydney White Eagles and three times winners Bankstown NIB Tornadoes are all in the fight for this year's championship.

But it is the Osman-inspired Swans, runners-up last season, who sit on top of the table.

The signing of Australia's number one goalkeeper Bruce Thurlow, two footed scorer Stefan Janic and the emergence of the Duval brothers, Brett and Steve, are all valid reasons the Swans can go one better in this season's play-offs and win their first title.

Younger brother Ercan, a builder by profession, is the set moves expert.

Erkin, the captain, the leader, the organiser whose explosive speed off the mark wins him valuably time and space.

For Erkin, the 1988 James Hardie Player of the Year, there are two clearly defined goals for 1989.

Firstly to make amends for ***that*** *miss in the last Pacific Cup and bring the Pacific Cup back to Australia, and secondly to help the Swans to their first national championship against their more fancied opponents at the State Sports Centre, Homebush on December 8/9.*

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Numbers will be limited to 54 players. Nominations close on the 10th December, 1989.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

ONE person I know the exact age of is Kim Schaefer, Australian representative goalkeeper in both outdoor and indoor soccer, custodian for the Sydney Strikers in the Womens National Indoor Soccer League and daughter of former Socceroo star, now Apia coach Manfred Schaefer.

Twenty years ago, almost to the day, the Socceroos were playing a triangular World Cup elimination series in Seoul against South Korea and the then Olympic bronze medallist, Japan.

Kim Schaefer

Manfred, my room mate on all Socceroo tours in those days, received an early morning call that his wife Hannalore had given birth to their first child, a daughter.

The decision on a name was one for Manfred.

In a land where every one seems to have the surname of Lee or Kim, the latter was decided upon by the Schaefers.

Now Kim is one of the stars of the Womens NISL where the standard is exceptionally high.

The first National Championship for women appears to be between Kim's Sydney Strikers and Bankstown Tornadoes, the semis and finals for which will be played along with the James Hardie NISL finals at the State Sports Centre Homebush on December 8/9 this year.

Keeper's pledge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

when they started to struggle, the newcomer soon assumed the mantle of a scapegoat.

"I must admit that I did not handle the situation as well as I could have", McPherson confessed. "I now realise that I should have knuckled down and doubled my efforts to prove my critics wrong.

What upset me most, however, however was the way Thomson publicly crucified me in the press. For weeks he made it known that he was looking for a replacement goalkeeper and, in the end, I just lost interest. That was by far the most distressing period of my career".

For 12 months after his Sydney City fiasco, McPherson all but retired from the game.

He concentrated on his tiling business and spent 1987 playing Fourth Division soccer with Chelsea.

The painful memories of his days with the Slickers, however, got him motivated sufficiently enough to once again pick up the pieces of his shattered career.

His old coach Raul Blanco approached him to go back to Melita and help in the effort to win promotion from State League.

"I still had plenty of confidence in myself and that was all I needed" McPherson remembers. "Besides, I've always had a soft spot for the Eagles. It's a great club with tremendous supporters who truly love their football.

Blanco is also the most dedicated coach I've ever worked with as well as a true gentleman".

The possibility of fighting his way back into the NSL with a club he admired and a coach that he greatly respected gave McPherson a new lease of life.

The chance of finally erasing those bitter memories of 1986 from his mind was an additional bonus.

But winning promotion was not a simple matter. McPherson and Blanco had to endure the huge disappointment of getting pipped on the post by Blacktown after Melita had set up what appeared to be an unassailable lead

"That was a lesson which proved invaluable for all of us this year. We made certain that once we got to the top of the table we were going to stay there, " he said.

"We were absolutely determined that no one was going to deprive this club of the success that so many people had worked so hard for. What's more, the benefits from that lesson will extend to this season. You can rest assured that the Eagles are in the NSL to stay".

Contrary to general opinion, McPherson does not believe Melita will struggle to adjust to the higher level of football.

"The great enthusiasm of our supporters will rub off onto the team and it will get us through" he said. "Most of our players will be getting their first taste of the NSL and are

RAUL BLANCO

looking forward to playing against good teams on good pitches week in week out.

"Obviously, our main aim is purely one of survival but we also have a lot to offer.

At an age when goalkeepers seem to be at their peak McPherson is surprisingly uncertain about his future.

"I can probably go on for another three or four years," he said, "but I just take things as they come from one season to the next.

"My job is to help ensure Melita's survival this year. That's a commitment I have given to Raul. After that we'll just have to wait and see.

"In all honesty, I'm not the best trainer in the world and Blanco knows it but he also knows that for 90 minutes on a Sunday I go out and do the business.

That's good enough for him" he admits with a matter of fact simplicity.

McPherson has never been one to dwell too much on the past or look too far into the future but for at least one afternoon at the Melita Stadium on December 3, the two will come together.

He is looking forward to a meeting with his former coach from those miserable days at Sydney City with great relish.

"Make sure you don't miss that one" he said with a mischievious blend of good humour and unmistakable determination in his voice. "I will be doing everything in my power to prove a few people wrong".

Don't worry Alex, you can be certain that nothing will keep me away.

The heat is on!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

One only wishes more thought had gone into implementing such a revolutionary change as there appears to be several loose ends.

The NSL, however, is likely to learn from its mistakes as the season progresses and, hopefully, all the kinks will soon be straightened out as the 14 clubs settle down for what promises to be an enthralling competition.

Two-time champions Marconi are again entitled to start favourites — in both the minor premiership and the final series — but there will be a host of challengers for their crown.

Will this be at long last the season Melbourne comes good?

Melbourne Croatia and Preston Makedonia, on paper, look even stronger than last season, and do not discard South Melbourne Hellas under legendary coach Frank Puskas.

Of the Adelaide duo, City should again be close to the top rungs while Hellas might have to limit their ambition to staving off relegation in their return season in the NSL.

Marconi will be the undoubted flagbeareer of the seven-team Sydney contingent.

The summer season may come a trifle too early for Sydney Croatia, who are in a transitionary phase, and St George could be struggling to repeat their second placing in the league last season, but with Frank Arok who can ever tell what he has up his sleeve?

There must also be a question mark on Sydney Olympic, who have lost several key players. Can they finally get their act together after coming so tantalisingly close last season?

Apia and newly promoted Melita Eagles at this stage look like struggling, but in Manfred Schaefer and Raul Blanco they both have astute coaches who could get them out trouble at season's end.

Likewise for Les Scheinflug's Blacktown City, who have spared no effort nor expense to have a competitive side in 1989/90 and who have also shown the way with promoting the product they have to sell.

Financially-strapped Wollongong City may be hard pressed to keep up with the pace, but then remember 1988 when everyone predicted they would be relegated, yet they won the minor premiership that season!

All in all, it shapes up as a very competitive inaugural summer season as 13 teams set out after Marconi's crown.

ALAN CLARK REVIEWS
The Soccer Scene in . . .

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Foundation S.A.

PROMOTING A STATE OF HEALTH

Adelaide City has been given a boost with class midfield marksman Aurelio Vidmar signing a new contract.

And livewire teenage Salisbury striker Michael Brooks is to train with the club.

Vidmar said he definitely would stay with City this season.

"I should be fixing it all up this week," said Vidmar, 22, who impressed in a striking role late last season.

"I was in contact with Italy and there is a period for imports to go from October 10-24. But I have decided to stay here."

Charley Villani signed with City again last week and gradually is easing back into work.

Brooks, 19, last year was the striking partner of Carl Veart who is impressing City at training and likely to join the club on loan from Salisbury for the NSL season.

Meanwhile, rugged City defender Gareth Naven will decide his playing future in December.

'I'm just resting up at the moment. I'm not training with the club," said Naven.

"I have not been advised if I am open to transer or what. I'll have to get in contact with the club and I'll decide, probably in December, what I'll do."

★★★

BOB Telfer Medal winner Angelo Ditroia is keen to play next season in the First Division.

The Second Division's best from Omonia, at 27, feels he is reaching his prime and wants to give the top leauge another shot.

The left-sided midfielder started with Adelaide City as a 13-year-old and stayed for eight years.

He then had spells with Campbelltown and Beograd before joining Omonia for last season.

"Omonia showed a lot of promise late in the season and I am thrilled to bits at winning the medal," said Ditroia.

"But, at this stage of my career, I really think I'd like to give the First Division another go.

"Only a minimal transfer fee is on my head and a couple of clubs have shown interest so far. We'll see what develops."

★★★

MERCURIAL Dane Jesper Sorensen is ready to return to SA next season.

The controversial midfielder, who played here with Adelaide City and Croatia, joined a Second Division side on his return to his native Denmark.

But it failed to gain promotion last season and Sorensen, in contact with friends in SA, has said he would like to return to SA. He could be here next month.

★★★

BEOGRAD will be without the services of classy defender John Hood next season.

The dependable defender is moving to Port Moresby in a job promotion.

"We are sorry to see John go but it is a job move he cannot miss out on," said coach John Nyskohus.

"Apart from John, none of the other players we want to keep have indicated they want to go. We are seeking a couple of quality players and once we are allowed we shall approach them. But things are looking pretty good at the moment. Everything seems pretty sound and stable."

Beograd welcomes staunch clubman Steve Nikolich as president.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE GAMES

ROUND 1

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3			
Melbourne Croatia	v	Preston	Somers St 6pm
St George	v	Blacktown City	St George Stad 7pm
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 4			
Apia Leich	v	Adelaide Hellas	Marconi Stadium 6pm
Marconi	v	Sydney Olympic	Marconi Stadium 8pm
W'gong City	v	Adelaide City	Brandon Park 7pm
Melita Eagles	v	Sunshine	Melita Stad 7pm
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5			
South Melbourne	v	Sydney Croatia	Middle Park 6pm

1989/90 SA NSL clubs preview

Adelaide City will rely on 'old faces'

BY ALAN CLARK

ADELAIDE CITY, the 1986 champion, will rely on 'old faces' for this season's NSL challenge.

ROBERT ZABICA

Exciting teenage striker Carl Veart from SA League side Salisbury looks the only addition to the side which narrowly failed to make last year's play-offs.

Veart, 19, has gone to City on loan for the summer campaign and quietly has impressed observers in trials so far.

He is likely to link up in front with Steve Maxwell and Aurelio Vidmar.

Socceroo fringe player Joe Mullen initially could have a midfield role alongside skipper Sergio Melta and playmaker Adrian Santrac.

Mercurial Charley Villani and defender Paul Shillabeer are recovering from surgery and will miss the season opening.

But young Tony Vidmar, who completed a fine debut in the NSL last season, will be a ready replacement in whichever role coach Zoran Matic chooses for him.

Matic is not going to have much depth in his squad after failing to lure Victorians Mehmet Durakovic and Joe Palatsides.

But the lack of numbers could see such talented youngsters as Chris White, Carlo Talladira and Joe Barbaro given the chance to boost their NSL claims.

Milan Ivanovich proved a defensive tower last season in his Australian debut and with tough as teak Neville Flounders and goalkeeper Robert Zabica he will still form one of the best defensive lines in thge NSL.

City is sure to try to play with its customary style and flair, and that means entertainment for the fans.

WHISPERS

SALISBURY has been given a pledge that a major sponsor will back its bid to go national if it wins next season's State League.

Mr Eddie Dubsky, of Dubsky Timbers, has told Salisbury he substantially will back the club.

And he has given assurances that other prominent local businesses will support the move.

Salisbury also has plans before the local council for improvements, including seating at its Steve Jarvis Park.

★★★

AZZURRI has unveiled plans for the developmet of a new $10 million stadium complex.

The club will have a 99-year lease on land owned by the State Education Department.

Club president Rep Giordano said "We are taking taking a professional approach towards our aim of NSL representation."

★★★

HARRY Brown will coach Second Division side Seaford next year.

He replaces Julian Stuart who is likely to continue as a player with another club.

Peter Herd won Seaford's best player award this season. Paul Mathews took honours in reserves with Paul Lawrie tops in Juniors.

Brown, meanwhile, led the Mayfair Cavaliers to victory in the over-30s section of the recently completed Masters Games in Adelaide.

★★★

AZZURRI's best and fairest award went to goalkeeper Andy Papp-Horvath.

Steve Hutchins was voted Players' Player of the Year.

ALBY KIDD: top Hellas goalgetter in 1989 SA season.

Hellas confident it will survive

BY ALAN CLARK

COACH Peter Jaksa says Hellas does not fear anyone as it prepares to kick off its summer NSL campaign.

And the club wants to give fans value for money with attacking soccer.

"With the squad we have we have no need to fear anyone," said Jaksa. "We might take three or four games to get into the rhythm of the NSL but we shall not be looking at avoiding relegation.

"A Top Five position is our target. We have the four ingredients required for soccer today — individual ability, the ability to put pressure on the opposition, tactical discipline and athletic capabilities.

"Our speed both in retreating and attack will worry other sides. We want to play exciting soccer and give people their money's worth."

Jaksa had a squad of 24 in sweatshop training at Port Adelaide.

"We really only have had enough break to get over the bruises from last season," Jaksa said. "Mentally we have had no relaxation.

"But the players are back in the groove and are responding well at training. We can throw the cat among the pigeons in the NSL."

Negotiations are going on to have Robbie Parks (Campbelltown), Robbie Slager and Mladen Putanec (Croatia) and Tony Gasparetto (Salisbury) in Hellas colours in the next week or so.

Wojtek Jagoda should come from Poland and Hellas is keeping an eye on potential interstate and overseas developments.

"I am confident starting with our Foundation League squad from last season," said Jaksa.

ENGLISH ACE FOR BRISBANE

ACACIA RIDGE is making a bid to have former England and Liverpool defender Phil Thomson play two matches next season.

The club has returned to the XXXX League for the 1990 season.

Thompson, now 35, will be involved in a series of coaching clinics in Brisbane next June.

Acacia Ridge has asked Thompson's agent to make arrangements for two guest appearances.

Until now the Queensland Soccer Federation has sanctioned guest players, providing that they play at least four games.

However, there are no hard and fast regulations to prevent a guest from playing a lesser number of matches.

Thompson wore England's colours on 42 occasions and made over 300 first team appearances with Liverpool.

He now coaches the Liverpool reserve team.

His coaching courses will be held at Proud Field from mid-June, followed by another at Tallebudgera on the Gold Coast.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALL NSL TEAMS AUSTRALIAN SOCCER ANNUAL AT LEADING NEWSAGENTS NOW

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Chile v Turkey in the final

TURKEY and Chile will meet on Saturday at Garside Park in the final of the sixth Sydney Ethnic Soccer World Cup, after their respective victories over Spain and Macedonia in the two semi-finals last weekend.

In the over 35s, title holder Australia will play Chile in the final after the Aussies defeated Uruguay 4-2 on penalties, and Chile beat Argentina 1-0 in extra-time.

TURKEY 3 SPAIN 1

The young Turkish outfit qualified for the final of the Ethnic Cup after a well-deserved victory over Spain.

Turkey was the better team, well balanced in every department, with talent, skills, great mobility and a killer instinct in attack.

Spain moved fast and created two chances, both missed by Gilbert and Pou.

From that point on the game flowed beautifully and became very intense, with constant pressure in both goalmouths.

After about 25 minutes the Spaniards gained control of the midfield and created two scoring chances, but Pou in the 35th minute missed a sitter and Villazon in the 42nd was denied by a Turkish defender.

The first 30 minutes of the second half belonged to Turkey.

The outstanding work in midfield by Taskin and Sertbas, with support from Genc and Celik, was the deciding factor as the strikers started to put pressure on the Spanish defence.

Replacement Taleka missed a golden opportunity in the 19th minute. Two minutes later, a shot from Genc was deflected by a Spanish defender.

In the 22nd Gregson took a rebound from Salinas and sent the ball too high and, finally, in the 24th minute Turkey went 1-0 up.

Defender Piriz lost his balance, the ball accidentally touched his hand and the referee awarded a penalty in favour of Turkey.

Midfielder Sertbas converted the spot-kick with clinical precision.

Four minutes later, Tasdemir took advantage of a Spanish defensive blunder, sent a high ball that goalkeeper Supancic managed to touch but couldn't stop, and Turkey went further ahead to the tune of 2-0.

Spain fought back but their game was based more on individual efforts than team-work.

Replacement Perdomo scored from a penalty in the 31st minute to reduce the leeway and Spain continued to press while Turkey kept counter-attacking dangerously.

The brilliance of Turkish goalkeeper Silleci's saves denied Spain time and again.

Two minutes before full-time, Taleka sealed Turkey's victory after excellent build-up by Senol, Celik and Genk.

Spain was a shadow of its previous self, with several positional changes from the squad that successfully reached the semi-finals.

The omission of Perdomo from the starting line-up worked against the Spanish chances, while Mora, although excellent, would have been more effective as a striker than in the defense.

But full marks though to Turkey — a very well oiled machine and great entertainers.

TURKEY: Silkeci (8), Youman (8), Akdogan (6), Greegson (7), Sertbas (8), Genc (7), Taskin (9), Tasdemir (6) (Senol 86th), Celik (8), Everigen (5) (Taleka 53rd) (6), Cootes (6).

SPAIN: Supancic (7), Ugarte (5) (Perdomo 49th) (7), Salinas (4), Piriz (6), Arcosa (7), Pou (5), Zaya (7), Gilbert (4), Fernandez (4), Villazon (5).

(Players graded from 0 to 10).

Man of the match: Taskin (Turkey).

CHILE — 1989 Sydney Ethnic World Cup finalists.

Over 35 s Semi-finals

CHILE 1 ARGENTINA 0

Chile won after extra time

CHILE: Navarro (Fernandez), Mendoza, Guajardo (Navarro), Salas, Alarcon, Alvarez (Zamora), Molina, Munoz (sent off 15th), Marin, Clavijo, Daza.

ARGENTINA: Novaro, Domene, Spinelli, Betancour, Mispiacegui (Ormeno), Manuele, Panetta, Aguayo, Cerda (Pasanante), Menendez, Villegas.

Scorer: Marin 77th.

Man of the match: Marin (Chile).

AUSTRALIA (0) 4 URUGUAY (0) 2

Australia won on penalties, after extra-time finished in a 0-0 draw

AUSTRALIA: Polter, Jones, Crnic, Brown, Suggett, Gibson, Ainslie, Callus, Edwards, Moxon, Kosanic.

URUGUAY: Denis, Costa, Ximeno, Viera, Cabral (Guarroz) (Martirena), Martinez, Gonzalez (Farias), Lauz, Llambi, Mulian, Pose.

Penalty scorers for Australia: Ainsley, Suggett, Deeks, Crnic. Missed: Moxon.

Penalty scorers for Uruguay: Martirena and Ximeno. Missed: Farias and Llambi.

Man of the match: Suggett (Australia).

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CONTINUED FROM P1

The League, which will now be known as the 'Quit National Soccer League', will use the soundtrack theme "The Heat Is On" from the movie 'Beverley Hills Cop" to promote summer soccer.

Former Socceroo skipper John Kosmina, who will guest commentate this season on ABC-TV's telecasts of the Big Match programme on Sundays between 5pm and 6pm, opened the conference in Sydney.

ABC-TV will again have John Bell as host, with Mike Hill covering Sydney, Peter Gee Melbourne and Roger Wills Adelaide.

Selected matches played on Friday and Saturday evenings, will be screened by ABC-TV on Sunday.

NSL vice-chairman Tony Labbozzetta stated at the Sydney conference: "By playing at a time when the League is not competing with other sections of soccer, we are now in a position to maximise attendances.

"Our theme — 'The Heat is On' — is relevant in more ways than one. We need the League to become more established and acknowledged by the general public.

"The heat will therefore be on us all to perform.".

Chief Executive Officer of Quit, Ms Rhonda Galbally, opined: "We are delighted to be involved with soccer in general and with the NSL in its inaugural summer season.

"*I am sure the Quit* National Soccer League will be a complete success and we are pleased to be the major funder".

It was also announced that the Quit NSL had appointed 'Information Dialling Services' on the 0055 Network to provide an exclusive. comprehensive range of information on soccer.

The general manager of 'IDS', David Hayes, told ASW: "Our service will bring live commentary of selected games for the entire season, with well known callers Les Murray, Andy Paschalidis and Johnny Warren being used.

"IDS will also establish *individual telephone services* for each of the NSL clubs with update news supplied by them".

Summer soccer will have a fixed panel of 15 referees, enabling more regular involvement at top level.

Officials not selected for refereeing duties will be chosen as senior linesmen for all NSL matches.

The National Youth League will once again be conducted on a regionalised basis, with matches being played in the main as curtain-raisers to Quit NSL fixtures.

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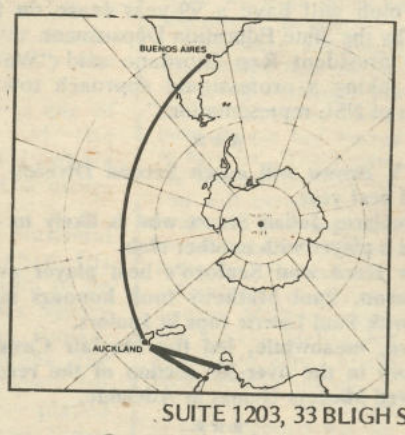

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CHEERS TO YOU!

ON the way to becoming a top Australian goalkeeper is Danielle Cheers, an 18-year-old Year 12 student from Merrylands, in Sydney's Parramatta district.

Danielle Cheers

Danielle represented NSW Schools in the last national championships in Adelaide.

She has already represented her state on four occasions, and has played in Canada, China and Hong Kong.

Next time it will be a trip to the United States.

Apart from soccer practice and some baseball, she has gained goalkeeping expertise from enjoying her other love — jazz ballet.

Chile outclasses the Macedonians

CHILE 3
MACEDONIA 0

Chile produced its best performance so far in the Ethnic Cup to completely outplay last year's winner, Macedonia, in the second semi-final of the Ethnic World Cup.

The South Americans controlled the game for the whole 90 minutes in great fashion and overpowered a disappointing Macedonian squad which missed the skills and talent of Dameski in midfield.

Chile was superior in all departments and dominated the midfield from the start through the excellent work of Monsalve, Castro and Ortiz.

The skills and ball control of the Chilean midfielders, who linked up beautifully with strikers Araujo, Ferris and Duarte, were just too much for the defending champions.

That superiority was finally established in the 27th minute. Duarte, after a good individual effort, combined with Ferris who, with a perfect shot, opened the score.

The Chilean pressure continued until the last minute of the first half, and although Macedonia had some chances to score in the later stages, Chile was always on top and Ferris added the second goal in the 45th minute.

A shot from Ortiz was deflected by a Macedonian defender, Ferris took the rebound and with a powerful drive put the ball against the left post, away from goalkeeper Hayes.

Five minutes into the second half, Ferris completed his hat-trick. The striker received a deep pass from Ortiz. With great speed he left the Macedonian defenders behind and scored the best goal of the match.

Monsalve was brilliant for Chile and he received great support from Ortiz and Castro, while Ferris was man of the match.

CHILE: Gonzalez (7) (Trostel 78th), Cortes (7), Johnson (7), Willis (7), Kulwicki (8), Ortiz (8), Araujo (8), Castro (8) (Donoso 68th), Duarte (7) (Norman 77th), Monsalve (9), Ferris (9).

MACEDONIA: Hayes (7), Wilson (4), Baillie (6), Pilovski (5), Reveley (5), Lerond (4), Hatton (6), Slaveski (6), Markovski (4), Spirovski (3) (Naumovski 55th) (5), Kadric (4) (Bozinovski 61st — sent off 77th).

(Players graded from 0 to 10 points).

Man of the match: Ferris.

ABOVE — Turkey, Chile's opponents in Saturday's Sydney Ethnic World Cup final. BELOW — Macedonia, the beaten semi-finalists last weekend — HECTOR CARRASCO photos.

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5.30PM **CLOSING CEREMONY**
6.00PM ***GRAND FINAL***
TURKEY vs CHILE

OVER 35 COMPETITION

12.30PM 3rd & 4th places
URUGUAY vs ARGENTINA
2.00PM ***GRAND FINAL***
AUSTRALIA vs CHILE

Second Division Review

Still life left in Yugal

BY PAUL GOODWIN

Yugal's 1989 squad — hoping for bigger and better things next season.

AFTER finishing at the foot of the ladder in First Division in 1988, the famous old Yugal club elected to cut costs and function within their means in 1989.

No outlandish contracts were on offer and it was pleasing to see so many old regulars stick with the club as it got things back on an even keel.

The first game played at Mount Druitt produced a 1-1 draw and the point gained represented a fair indication of how things were to transpire over the course of the season.

The club averaged exactly a goal a game and collected 25 points to average more or less a point from every outing.

The team gained a reputation for strong defence and good teamwork, but lacked a regular goalscorer to support Zoran Beluzic whose class shone brightly in good times and bad.

The player who joined St George from Novisad in 1985 has become an integral part of the Yugal set-up and the birth of a new son gave him further cause for celebration.

Beluzic was well marked, but managed to elude his shadow enough to create and score many fine goals, particularly from dead-ball situations.

Another who has been almost part of the furniture and a highly consistent member of 'The Blues' is Chris Card, and he was an asset once aain, with his strong shot and energetic running.

Policeman Shane Hall burst onto the scene at the start of the year and made the long trek from Goulburn for many months.

He was very useful up front, but a motoring accident held up his progress and next year should see him realising his full potential.

Another policeman, Doug McKenzie, has been as steady as a rock in central defence and had a good understanding with Eddie Tomasic at the back, together keeping a very tight rein on opposition attacks.

At 26, McKenzie will continue to mature, has served Yugal well for several seasons and should be on duty for many years to come.

Tomasic is a burly defender with nearly 10 years in the club's colours and was as dependable as ever, showing tremendous leadership and receiving great respect from his fellow-players.

Goalkeeper Rosario Pinto, as flamboyant as ever, kept Yugal in the game on occasions when other defences might have cracked and as well as being spectacular, was highly reliable, having joined the club from Uruguay-Auburn some years ago. At 25, he should figure in plans well beyond the 1991 season.

Though Yugal has managed to retain the loyalty of so many players, one cannot forget the longest serving player of all, Stan Tanovski. Stan-the-man has played for nc other State League club and despite increasing business commitments, the left flank specialist continued to make a valuable contribution.

When his playing days are over, he would be a welcome addition to the administration.

Yugal has developed its youth teams well during the year and will continue to show every encouragement to its younger players.

Many are ready to progress to the senior team and should follow in the footsteps of men like 19-year-old Andre Spnovic, who has shown flair from the right back position and is a bright hope for the future.

Zoran Milosavljevic is the understudy goalkeeper but that didn't stop him getting on the first grade scoresheet from only a couple of appearances!

One particular youngster to show promise is Paul Petteinon, a former full-back, who seems to have found his niche as an attacking midfielder, judging by the quality of his goals scored for the club in his new-found role.

In discussing Yugal, the Apanian brothers Wally, Bill and Michael must not be forgotten; Wally has been around for a while and demonstrates class in midfield, while Michael's speed out of defence is electrifying.

Bill is a member of the under 19 side and benefitting from his spell with this well-established club.

Further improvement from Walter Cerar and George Nikiforidis, who are both talented midfield tyros, will help the Yugal team of the 1990s.

It has been a tremendous show of club spirit by all concerned, but none more so than coach Joe Alagich who gave of his time so generously before suffering serious illness late in the season.

Joe has been associated with the club for a long time and it is hoped that he can continue in one capacity or another when boots are once again pulled on.

Yugal have seen better times, but are by no means finished.

They are negotiating with their local council to have Mona Park available again and intend to extend their operations within the general Auburn community which already gives them good support.

Putting down roots in the West could lead to the establishment of a new social club, which has been high on the agenda for some time.

A successful presentation night was held at Petersham Town Hall on September 30, with over 300 in attendance.

The sponsors, JAT Yugoslav Airlines, were generous with their support and the night's fund-raising boosted the club coffers considerably.

ACT BRIEFS

● **Queanbeyan Macedonia must hand over $4500 to the ACTSF if it wants to continue in local soccer, a Federation appeals board has ruled.**

It must pay a fine of $1500 within 28 days, but will also have to post a good behaviour bond of $3000 for the next two seasons.

The money could be forfeited if the club is found guilty of any serious offences during that time.

The penalty, one of the heaviest the Federation has imposed in recent years, stems from an incident in an ACT First Division match between Macedonia and Juventus last season when the referee was allegedly assaulted as he was coming off the field.

Meanwhile, Canberra Croatia's appeal against a $1000 fine imposed following the abandonment of the Federation Cup semi-final with Tuggeranong United has been reduced to $500 and suspended for 12 months by the Protests and Disputes Board. The effect of the ruling is that Croatia will pay nothing providing the club steers clear of trouble in the 1990 season.

● ERICA Whisson won the CCAE's women's club player of the year award at the annual presentation night. Best and fairest was Sheryl Trevena while Carolyn Newman was rookie of the year.

● **JUVENTUS has given the go-ahead for the formation of a women's section for the opening of the 1990 season.**

Club president Sergio Franchi said the move came after informal discussions with the AWSA executive director Heather Reid, who is a playing member of Downer Olympic.

"If Heather and the ACTWSA can help us with someone who can get things moving, we will give the project our backing," he said. Juventus is one of two ACT First Division clubs (Canberra Croatia is the other) which do not as yet run women's teams.

● BELNORTH junior club's magazine, Clubscene, celebrated an impressive milestone during the season — it's 50th consecutive issue since it went weekly a year ago. Editor David Wright said the print run was 1100 and the only problems had been a couple of limited editions due to equipment failure!

— GRAHAM COOKE

Obtain ASW every Wednesday!

Changes at Monaro

BY GRAHAM COOKE

INTER Monaro has placed eight of last year's NSW Soccer League first team on the open to transfer list.

Eight more have been retained while one, Alan Strachan, who joined Monaro during the season from Scotland, is a free agent.

The transfer list, announced by club president Willie Weijers, includes goalkeepers Manuel Notaris and Darko Pokas, and Njegosh Popovich, who finished equal second highest scorer with four goals.

Also open for transfer are Popovich's defender brother, Toplica, experienced defenders John Santolin and Angelo Titilas, and midfielders Luche Djordjieski and Craig Alchin.

Retained are club captain Baz Giampaolo, Angelo Ambrosino, Tilly Carbone, Mark Arthur, Tony Brennan, Peter Thompson, John Janke and Bruno Monterosso.

Weijers said he also hoped to retain a substantial number of the youth team, making special mention of Bruce Grassick and Fabian Florian, who both had first-team runs towards the end of the season.

"I would also hope that Alan Strachan considers staying at Monaro in 1990," he said.

Weijers stressed that none of the players on the transfer list would be give-aways. "Interested clubs can approach Monaro and we can negotiate," he said.

"And the club will be targetting two senior signings for the new season — a goalkeeper and striker."

ATTILIO CARBONE

Angelo Ambrosino

It is no secret that Weijers is an admirer of Belconnen United's first-team keeper Richard Tomaszewski while he is also keen to entice striker Gary van der Plaat from Canberra City Concordia — a coup which would make van der Plaat the second ACT League Player of the Year (after Peter Thompson) to join the club in as many seasons.

The retention of Giampaolo could mark the first step in a series of summer manoeuvres over the future of one of the most naturally gifted players in the game.

Monaro's neighbour, *Canberra Croatia*, believes his talents might make the difference in a season in which it intends to make an all-out effort to gain NSL status but Monaro, which last year sold Croatia top scorer Marko Perinovic, midfielder Joe Gagetti and goalkeeper Peter Gunning for a total believed to be around $12,000, is unlikely to be so generous again.

Monaro will also make a decision on its coaching and management staff this month. Applications for the various positions closed on November 1.

Proud Record

SOUTHERN and Eastern Soccer Association is proud of the record of referees who have come through its ranks.

Despite being the smallest association in Sydney, no less than five former S and E referees were on the job in NSL grand final games.

They were Nick Asargiotis, Manny Loupis, Boyd MacGregor, George Munro and Alex Spiroski.

Ted Simmons, well known as the AAP Soccer journalist, was elected president of the S and E Referees Association for his fourth year.

Previously he had been involved as the Association president for 10 years.

The new referees' secretary is Rodney McManus.

Rockhampton seeks coaching director

THE Rockhampton Soccer Federation is seeking a regional coach following the departure of Richard Evans.

The Federation will be examining their options at next month's meeting.

Evans has taken up a post at Rockhampton Grammar School.

Queensland is well catered for when it comes to professional coaching staff.

Jim Selby covers the south eastern corner,

Mal Bland is located in Brisbane, where state director Bruce Stowell is centred.

Tony Beusnell is located at Bundaberg, Andrew Bettell at Townsville and Peter Kelly at Mackay.

Queensland's long coastline and spaced out cities require regional treatment.

The Sunshine State is extremely well placed compared with other states.

In fact it was off and running well before New South Wales, which delayed grasping its opportunities.

Even though the NSW wheel has turned it still has not lifted its game enough to lead Queensland.

Victoria has Tim White, who early in the piece was at Townsville, with Socceroo Jeff Olver doing school liaison work.

Although appointed South Australia's general manager, Mike Wells keeps a close eye on their coaching scheme.

— KEITH GILMOUR

English striker Gary Lineker salutes the second of his two goals in Tottenham's 3-0 win over Sheffield Wednesday.

Belgian boss wants to be respected

BY BERT LAUWERS of REUTERS

BELGIAN national radio asked its listeners what they thought of the country's new coach.

They said Walter Meeuws was arrogant, inexperienced and totally unfit for the job.

It was a verdict Meeuws found hard to swallow after leading Belgium to the World Cup finals.

But the Belgians are reluctant to accept the tall, handsome Meeuws, who contrasts sharply with his predecessor Guy Thys, a popular father figure known for his relaxed approach during his 13 years as national coach.

"People find it difficult to see me as national coach. I will have to live with that at least until the World Cup," Meeuws says.

Meeuws played as a defender for Belgian clubs Beerschot, FC Brugge, and Standard Liege before joining Ajax Amsterdam in 1984 after a 10-month suspension for his involvement in a bribery scandal at Liege.

Meeuws and 12 other players from Standard Liege and Waterschei were suspended after admitting that a $7,800 bribe had been paid to Waterschei to lose a crucial match in which Standard clinched the 1982 league title.

He ended his playing career with Mechelen and had only a brief taste of coaching with Belgian side Lierse before being summoned to the job of national coach.

Meeuws understands why people look upon him as inexperienced.

"Too many people still see me in my shorts and jersey as a player," said 38 year old Meeuws.

But — hoping his confidence will not be mistaken for arrogance — Meeuws says he has never had any doubts about his new role.

His task, however, will be far from simple.

For years Belgium's playing style, notoriously solid in defence and counter-attack, has failed to win over the fans.

The 1986 World Cup in Mexico, when Belgium reached the semi-finals with a remarkable string of successes, was the sole exception and for once thousands of enthusiastic fans took to the streets to welcome them home.

Meeuws' job is to make the national team popular again.

"I want people to see the Red Devils no longer as a cool, killer machine. In two years I want them to say: "they are hard to play against and they also know how to play good soccer".

WALTER MEEUWS

His masterplan is simple: "I want attacking play. Instead of winning the ball in the middle of our half of the field, I want my players to intercept the ball near the middle line so that we can get faster near the opponents' goal."

Meeuws' confidence stems mainly from the fact that his appointment coincides with the emergence of an exceptional crop of talented players.

Meeuws says his squad is far superior to the generation of 1980 when Belgium reached the European championship final.

"In two years Belgium will no longer have to be afraid of anybody. But first the group needs these six weeks together in Italy," he said of next June's World Cup finals.

That tournament will also be the international farewell for attacking midfielder Jan Ceulemans and defender Eric Gerets, the last veterans of the 1982 and 1986 World Cups and both former team-mates of Meeuws.

Gifted players such as Enzo Scifo or Marc Degryse, capable of turning a match with their mercurial touch, are set to take over as team leaders, according to Meeuws.

CRIMINAL CHARGES

SOUTH Yorkshire police declined to comment on a report that five senior officers were expected to face criminal charges as a result of the Hillsborough disaster.

A report in the SUNDAY TIMES of London said that according to unnamed legal sources, the team of 60 West Midlands detectives investigating the possible criminal aspects of the disaster believed the officers could be prosecuted.

A South Yorkshire police spokesman said: "We have no knowledge of this."

The report says the five are expected to be charged with "misconduct by a police officer", a charge which, it adds, has been brought only twice in recent legal history.

South Korea, Emirates qualify

BY LOU GAUTIER

RANK outsiders the United Arab Emirates (UAE) secured the second Asian berth to the World Cup finals when they held South Korea to a 1-1 draw in the last match of the qualifying round-robin tournament in Singapore last Saturday.

South Korea, which booked its passage to Italy with a 2-0 win over Saudi Arabia three days earlier, snatched an early lead in the eighth minute but the UAE equalised in the 16th minute and the scores remained level until full-time.

The draw gave the tiny Arab Persian Gulf nation second place behind South Korea in the six-nation tournament.

They picked up six points from five games to dash the hopes of the other three contenders — China, Qatar and North Korea.

Qatar, despite an upset 2-1 win over China, came in fourth on four points.

The Emirates' qualification is a huge shock as they were never even remotely mentioned as a possibility.

While South Korea were the firm favourites to secure one of the two Asian berths, Saudi Arabia, the two-time Asian champions, or China were expected to qualify with them.

North Korea finished in last place, which is not surprising considering their self-imposed isolation.

Results:

China v Saudi Arabia 2-1, UAE v North Korea 0-0, Qatar v South Korea 0-0, Qatar v Saudi Arabia 1-1, South Korea v North Korea 1-0, UAE v China 2-1, South Korea v China 1-0, North Korea v Qatar 2-0, UAE v Saudi Arabia 0-0, China v North Korea 1-0, UAE v Qatar 1-1, South Korea v Saudi Arabia 2-0, UAE v South Korea 1-1, Saudi Arabia v North Korea 2-0, Qatar v China 2-1.

FINAL STANDINGS: South Korea 8 points, UAE 6, Qatar 5, China 4, Saudi Arabia 4, North Korea 3.

FRIENDLIES

- **Hungary 1 (Sekeres) Greece 1 (Borobokis)**
- **Malta 0 East Germany 4 (Doll 2, Steinmann 2)**

Nunez out of slammer

PARAGUAYAN international Jorge Armando Nunez has finally been released from a Quito, Ecuador jail, where he had been cooling his heels after Paraguay's 3-1 World Cup defeat by Ecuador.

Nunez was arrested after he first made obscene gestures to the Ecuadoran crowd and followed that by giving a local policeman a stinging right-hander.

No doubt his generosity was returned with interest on the way to the slammer . . .

Mum's the word!

NORTH Korea dropped a crucial World Cup qualifier to South Korea during the play-offs in Singapore but most North Koreans have not learned about it.

Seoul's semi-official Naewoe Press, which monitors the Pyongyang media, cited no North Korean reports of the national team's 1-0 defeat by their South Korean rivals in Singapore.

Naewoe recalled that when the North Korean team beat South Korea in past matches, North Korean media would announce the victory was due to the "wise leadership of the dear leader Kim Jong-Il".

Kim Jong-Il is North Korea President Kim Il-Sung's son and designated heir.

Liverpool's Bruce Grobbelaar saves in spectacular fashion in the recent English league match against Wimbledon.

Souness scotches Dalglish rumour

GLASGOW Rangers manager Graeme Souness ended rumours that Liverpool boss Kenny Dalglish would be taking over his job.

"The only way I will leave here is if I get the sack," he declared.

Souness admitted, however, that the rumourmongers had not assisted his plans for the Skol Cup final against Aberdeen.

"It is something we could have done without," he said.

"However, I'm afraid it seems to be part and parcel of the job here. Every week there are rumours, the vast majority of which are untrue."

Glasgow bookmakers had taken huge amounts of money on Dalglish quitting Liverpool and joining Rangers, with Souness moving 'upstairs' in some capacity.

KENNY DALGLISH

Dalglish, who succeeded Joe Fagan in the Anfield hot seat in 1985, is believed to be involved in the setting-up of a family restaurant business in Glasgow.

Bobby Gould fined

WIMBLEDON manager Bobby Gould has been fined $1500 by the English Football Association disciplinary commission after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.

Gould was also ordered to pay the costs of the hearing and told to supply a written guarantee about his future conduct towards match officials following incidents involving referee John Martin after Wimbledon's 2-2 home draw with Millwall in August.

Gould was found guilty of directing foul and abusive language towards Martin after the latter had sent off Wimbledon defender Eric Young and allowed a controversial late equaliser by Millwall's Tony Cascarino to stand.

On the ball in SOUTH AMERICA

BY MARIO ETCHART

- **It is rumoured that the new Peronist government in Argentina wants Argentine FA president Julio Grondona to resign. Grondona, a supporter of the opposition Radicals, is now persona non grata with Argentine president Carlos Menem.**
- Veteran Argentine goalkeeper Ubaldo Fillol is out of action for four months after cartilage surgery. The loss is a blow for his club San Lorenzo as he remains a key player at age 37.
- **In Brazil, leading Rio club Vasco de Gama has signed Ecuadoran World Cup star Quinones for $400,000. The 26-year-old central defender, who has played 50 times for his country, was one of the revelations of the recent Copa America.**
- Rogelio Delgado, captain of the Paraguayan national team, has renewed his contract with Argentina's Independiente Avellaneda until 1993.
- **Peruvian international Jose Gullermo Del Solar has signed for Argentina's Racing Avellanada. The 23-year-old midfielder was transferred from Universitario Deportes Lima.**
- Former Argentine international Jose Rafael Albrecht, who competed in the 1962 and 1966 World Cups, was the victim of a horrific accident when hit by a train in Buenos aires as he was crossing the tracks. He is in a coma and not expect to live.
- **Tele Santana has quit as coach of crack Rio club Flamengo. The former Brazilian World Cup supremo was shown the door by club officials when he benched former internationals Junior and Renato, who have returned home after stints in Italy.**
- **Paraguayan FA president Jesus Pallares resigned following his country's World Cup exit. Coach Cayetano Re is expected to follow him — after only six weeks on the job.**

★★★

Chile's captain Roberto Rojas was banned for life by FIFA after faking an injury during his side's controversial World Cup qualifying tie against Brazil in September.

Rojas is also required to serve an additional three-month suspension from all other "football activities."

★★★

Ruben Da Silva, the young Uruguayan international and ex-striker of Uruguayan champion Danubio, who was transferred to the Italian club Lazio, is on loan until June 1990 to River Plate of Argentina.

The 1988 Uruguayan Player of the Year made his debut for the Argentine club coming on as replacement for Basualdo against Rosario Central.

The match finished in a 0-0 draw. River Plate leads the Argentine First Division by one point from Independiente, Boca and Rosario.

Don Howe questions the Bobby Robson way

COACH Don Howe has clashed with manager Bobby Robson over how England should approach next summer's World Cup soccer finals.

Robson has vowed there will be no experiments when host nation Italy plays at Wembley next month, and he is also reluctant to try anything new in the December friendloy against Yugoslavia.

But Howe wants Robson to update England's predictable approach in the seven games between now and the finals.

"I've told Bobby that between now and the finals we should try different things within our own 4-4-2 system," said Howe.

"To go to Italy without a few ideas up our sleeve would be silly.

"You don't want to see England lose, but occasionally you have to try new ideas.

"It's up to Bobby. If he explained to people what he wanted to do, then I'm sure they would understand."

Howe pointed to European champion AC Milan and English FA Cup winner Liverpool as clubs who have successfully adopted the same 4-4-2 system, and suggested that Robson might like to study their methods in detail.

Robson did experiment slightly during the qualifiers, playing Peter Beardsley behind Gary Lineker against Sweden at Wembley last season and giving Chris Waddle a free role in Albania.

England manager, Bobby Robson.

But it is in defence that Howe would like to see some England innovations, with the ball being carried forward more quickly.

"I'm not being critical of Bobby Robson, England or myself," he stressed.

"I'm trying to be constructive and if we work hard on one or two ideas, it might get us a bit further along the line in Italy.

"Bobby has watched Italy's friendly international against Brazil, and I also try to keep up with what is going on around the world.

"For me there's always room for modern thinking and new ideas. We must broaden our approach."

Men from Mars

ENGLAND'S World Cup team will be sponsored by chocolate makers Mars,

Mars already sponsors Napoli, whose players wear the name and the logo of the company on their blue shirts.

Mars have signed the English national team to a four-year deal that will help to push the England players' pool.

And if England win the World Cup then the players can expect to share a bonanza of more than $3 million.

Now that England have qualified other companies seem certain to jump on the bandwagon advertising their products with endorsements from England players.

Five bookmakers, incidentally, have slashed the odds on England winning the World Cup to 10-1. Italy and Brazil are the joint-favourites.

FASHANU IN COMEBACK

JUSTIN Fashanu, one of the first $2 million players in British soccer, is set to make an English League comeback with Manchester City three years after retiring from the game with a knee injury.

Justin Fashanu

The former Nottingham Forest striker, now 27, was forced to quit English soccer in 1986 but has since been playing in Canada.

He had a brief trial at Manchester City in January before returning to Canadian club Edmonton where he finished as top scorer and was voted the league's Player of the Year.

A request to City to give him a further trial was granted and a recent hat-trick for the reserve side caught the eye of manager Mel Machin.

Fashanu, who had spells at Norwich, Nottingham Forest, Notts County and Brighton, said: "I feel much stronger than I did in my first spell with City. The knee that gave me so much trouble and forced me to quit English soccer is much better."

Inter Milan's Lothar Matthaus (left) gets his shot in against Malmo, the Swedish champions who knocked the Italians out of the European Champions' Cup.

Belgium, Sweden in!

BY LOU GAUTIER

BELGIUM and SWEDEN have clinched World Cup berths after their final European qualifiers last week.

Belgium, however, only squeaked in as a result of being held to a shock 1-1 draw by Luxembourg while the Swedes ended their commitments in style by winning 2-0 in Poland, and thus taking out Group 2 ahead of England, who already qualified three weeks ago.

Prague in front of 30,000 spectators, including members of the touring Marconi party, with goals coming from Bilek, Skuhravy and Moravcik.

For them to miss out, they would have to lose in Portugal on November 16 by four goals.

Turkey's emphatic 3-0 victory over Austria has put the cat among the pigeons in Group 3 where three teams are now equal on 7 points behind leaders USSR

PETER LARSSON — scored one of the Swedish goals that sunk Poland last week.

Cannes striker Eckstrom and Larsson scored for the Swedes while Versavel netted the goal Belgium needed to make absolutely certain of qualifying from Group 7.

In the same group Czechoslovakia are almost home and hosed for the second qualifying spot after trouncing Switzerland 3-0 in (9 pts) with one match remaining.

Ridvan scored twice and Feyyaz notched the third for the Turks.

Turkey have the best goal-difference, but theirs is the toughest task as they have to travel to the Soviet Union on November 8 while Austria is at home to East Germany on November 15.

YUGOSLAVIA defeated CYPRUS 2-1 in Athens last Saturday in their final European Group 5 qualifier to finish unbeaten and top the group with 14 points.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER

- **Malmo have clinched the Swedish minor premiership, but will have to win a play-off to clinch the 1989 title against either Orgryte or Norrkoping.**
- Deportiva Saprissa, who toured NSW 30 years ago, are the champions of Costa Rica.
- **Sergio Almiron has been transferred from Newell's Old Boys to Mexico's Universidad Autonoma. The Argentine striker was sold for $250,000.**
- In West Germany, FC Koln have decided to admit all East German refugees free to their home games this season. The estimated 40,000 East Germans who fled to the West recently will be let in gratis just by showing their birth certificate.
- **Socrates' new Brazilian club is Botafogo, coached by Ribeiro Preto. The great veteran quit Santos last month.**
- Fluminense will field several new faces in the Copa Uniao — the National League — after recently signing libero Vagner, defender Cocado and midfielder Vitor.
- **Dukla Prague have released their Czechoslovakian national team striker Thomas Kris to play in West Germany. Kris has joined Second Division Darmstadt 98.**
- Belgian First Division side Ekeren have sacked coach Albert Bers after only six weeks on the job. His replacement is Rene Desaeyre, who was in charge of Second Division RC Genk.
- **West German international defender Matthias Herget has suffered the indignity of being dropped from his club's first team. Schalke 04 coach Rolf Schafstall has had him on the bench for the past three weeks, claiming Herget is contributing nothing to his Second Division side.**
- Another Russian, the veteran Oleg Blokhin, is now in Cyprus — with Aris Limassol.
- **FC Koln have made inquiries about Tony Cottee but Everton says to forget all the transfer nonsense, he's going nowhere though he's been warming the bench at Goodison Park.**
- Would you believe that after only eight rounds of the Brazilian Copa Uniao (National League) six clubs had already sacked their coaches — Flamengo (Tele Santana), Curitiba (Edu), Inter Porto Alegre (Carpeggiani), Guarani (Evaristo), Botafogo (Espinosa)?
- **Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil has just put his foot in it again. A Spanish TV network had paid Atletico $5 million for rights to show all their games over the next two seasons. Now it has been refused permission to launch a commercial TV station and have asked Atletico for their money back. Gil said: "Sorry, but I've spent the money already on new players!"**
- Veteran French defender Patrick Battiston achieved the milestone of 500 First Division appearances last week. Battiston, who plays for Bordeaux, retired from the national team 18 months ago.
- **Peter Barnes, the former England striker who flopped with Melbourne JUST last season, now plays for Hamrun Spartans, in Malta.**
- Former Scottish FA president David Hill has replaced long-serving Irishman Harry Cavan as FIFA vice-president.

Canadian bribe scandal

FIVE members of Canada's national team took thousands of dollars in bribes to throw a tournament in Singapore in 1986, one of the players involved said on a Canadian television show.

Paul James, 26, of Oakville, Ontario, broke three years of silence in making the disclosures on CBC-TV's "Fifth Estate."

James said a friendly game of cards among himself, Igor Vrablic of Waterloo, Ontario; David Norman of Coquitlam, British Columbia; Chris Cheuden of Vancouver, British Columbia; and Hector Marinaro of Mississauga, Ontario, turned into a conspiracy to throw Canada's semi-final game against North Korea for $15,000 each.

The scandal originally broke in November 1987 when the Royal Canadian Mounted Police charged Vrablic, Norman, Cheuden and Marinaro with accepting bribes to affect the outcome of an international tournament. James was to be granted immunity to testify as a Crown witness.

But the charges were dropped when a judge ruled that the Criminal Code couldn't be enforced outside Canada and, therefore, whatever happened in Singapore was out of the court's jurisdiction.

James, Vrablic, Norman and Marinaro have been playing soccer in Canada since the charges were dropped. Cheuden has played in the United States.

James said he was shocked to hear at the card game in Singapore that the four had already been taking money from local bookmakers to win games in the Merlion Cup competition.

"Three years after the fact, I realised what was going on. The gamblers were setting everything up for them to eventually lose a game," James said.

Canada was favoured to win the tournament. They lost the match to North Korea 2-0 and finished third.

Kevan Pipe, the Soccer Association's executive director, told "Fifth Estate" that since the charges were dropped against the four players in December 1988, the national soccer association has been in legal fights to investigate the bribery allegations as an internal matter.

The Supreme Court of Ontario will soon hear the association's appeal to proceed with an internal investigation.

Swiss seek to change format

SWISS football is again in the midst of heated discussions over the future of the National League.

Fredy Rumo, for 10 years president of the League and now central president of the Swiss Federation (SFV), has presented yet another set of proposals aimed at improving the currently poor state of Swiss soccer.

His main suggestion that the league championship should be staged between March and November is certain to be rejected, however, because of the demands of the general European set-up.

The international tournaments and the transfer period make it hard, if not unrealistic, to change the present calendar of fixtures.

The Swiss must for climatic reasons put up with a two and a half month-long winter break.

In the winter, however, there are no players put up for sale on the international market.

In the summer months there would be fewer spectators because of the holiday time.

Hope springs eternal . . . This Trinidad and Tobago fan's sign says it all. Trinidad and Tobago meet the United States in the CONCACAF World Cup qualifying decider in Port of Spain on November 19.

European Cups previewed

Daunting tasks for Spaniards

BY LOU GAUTIER

SPANISH giants Real Madrid and Barcelona have the daunting task of pegging back two goals against world-class opposition in the European Cups tonight (Wednesday).

Real, beaten 2-0 by AC Milan at San Siro Stadium in the first leg when Dutch masters Frank Rijkaard and Marco van Basten scored in the first 13 minutes, are confident they can win by three goals at home, where in the past have they overcome bigger first leg deficits.

The holders of the Champions' Cup are, however, a different kettle of fish, and it's hard to see them folding despite the 100,000-crowd that will urge the Spanish champions on.

Van Basten's return could not have come at a better time for Milan, who are still without Ruud Gullit, of course.

Real may win, but I don't think the margin will be enough to see them through to the quarter-finals of a competition they have won six times.

Johan Cruyff's job may well be on the line when Barcelona are home to Anderlecht in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

The Belgians won 2-0 in the first leg and, like AC Milan, they seem composed enough to withstand the pressure of a capacity Nou Camp Stadium tonight.

If Barca are eliminated, it could be curtains for Cruyff as Barcelona have also had a wretched away record in the Spanish league to date.

Barcelona officials and fans are unforgiving: they want success, and more success, at all cost, and the fact that Cruyff won last year's Cup-Winners' Cup for the club will count for nothing.

Marseille will also need to keep their heads when they travel to Athens to play AEK.

The French champions, who are performing poorly domestically, were flattered by their first leg 2-0 win and last year's beaten finalists, Steaua Bucharest, will also have a tremendous fight on their hands in Eindhoven against the 1988 winners, PSV.

CFKA Sofia, of Bulgaria, should make it to the next round after drawing with Sparta in Prague and Mechelen should clinch their passage as they held Malmo, Inter Milan's conquerors, to a 0-0 draw in the first leg.

Dnepr, of the USSR, Bayern Munich and Benfica should all qualify comfortably.

Barcelona-Anderlecht stands out in the Cup-Winners' Cup, but there will also be a lot of interest in Genoa where Sampdoria take on Borussia Dortmund.

The Italians are not quite safe yet despite their 1-1 draw in West Germany because Bundesliga sides have the knack of coming good away from home.

Monaco will be hard pressed to make it to the quarter-finals after drawing 0-0 at home with Dynamo East Berlin, but the welcome return of Mark Hately may be the spur they need.

After losing by two goals at home, it's curtains for Panathinaikos as Dinamo Bucharest should qualify in a canter.

Holders Napoli, forced into a scoreless draw at Wettingen, should qualify for Round 3 of the UEFA Cup but Italy may lose Fiorentina, held to a draw in the first leg at home by Sochaux, of France.

Juventus should proceed further after winning 1-0 at Paris St-Germain as should Auxerre, 5-0 winners away in Finland in the first leg, Red Star Belgrade, Antwerp, Dynamo Kiev and Werder Bremen, who all chalked up big wins at home.

Hibernian, of Edinburgh, will have to win at Liege to become Britain's sole survivor in the three European Cups, but that may be beyond them.

Frank Farina's FC Brugge also have a tough assignment — they must win in Vienna after losing 2-1 at home.

The Sion-Karl Marx Stadt, FC Koln-Spartak Moscow, Zaragoza-Hamburg, VfB Stuttgart-Zenit Leningrad and Valencia-Porto ties can go either way.

AEK Athens' Miroslav Okonski (right), in action here against Apollon, will be looking for goals in the European Champions' Cup match against Marseille.

Admira Wacker striker Gerhard Rodax (right) is being chased by several European Cups after his goalscoring feats in Austria.

Italians blasted

ITALY predictably found themselves under attack from the press following their 1-0 defeat at the hands of three times World Cup winners Brazil in the first meeting between the two for seven years on October 14 in Bologna.

"Thanks Brazil — you've taught us a lesson" ran the headlines in the *Gazzetta dello Sport* bemoaning Italy's first defeat at home since going down 1-0 to Wales in June last year.

Brazil's Andre Cruz scored 12 minutes from the end with a curling free kick that took goalkeeper Walter Zenga by surprise, leaving the only two nations to have won the World Cup three times level at five victories and five defats apiece from their 10 meetings since 1938.

But with just eight months to go before the 1990 finals in Italy, manager Azeglio Vicini and his players were forced to fend off suggestions that the national team were resting on their laurels after recent successes.

AZEGLIO VICINI: under attack.

"It was an interesting and even match and I think a draw would have better reflected the game," said Vicini after his squad left the stadium to whistles and boos.

"The players seemed tired. We lacked sparkle but, although we have not taken a step forward, we haven't taken a step backwards either," he said.

Striker Gianluca Vialli, criticised along with new discovery Roberto Baggio for a poor performance, admitted Italy had been brought down to earth after a series of crushing international victories against lesser opponents.

Zenga, one of the few Italian players to escape the wrath of the press, said the side had played well but that apart from the "magic" goal, Brazil had failed to impress.

"They didn't upset me. To tell the truth I had expected Brazil to be much stronger," Zenga said.

FRANZ STAYS

FRANZ Beckenbauer has put an end to speculation he would step down as West German supremo after the 1990 World Cup finals, provided, of course, his team beats Wales on November 15 to clinch a spot in Italy.

Beckenbauer dismissed rumours he would take over the US national team for the 1994 series to be held in America or that he would succumb to tempting offers from Italian clubs.

Beckenbauer told the mass-circulation BILD ZEITUNG that he was "comfortable" at the helm of the West German squad and hoped to remain in his present job "as long as he was wanted."